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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report

## Near East & South Asia

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## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab League Official Meets Egypt's Musa, Comments

*NC1006174695 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Jun (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa met today with Sa'id Kamal, Arab League assistant secretary general for Palestinian affairs. Afterward Kamal said they discussed President Husni Mubarak's work for the peace process in the region in light of Kamal's recent meeting with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

He expressed hopes that agreement will be reached in July to redeploy the Israeli forces in order to enable the Palestinian Authority to assume its responsibilities in preparation for elections.

Kamal said he will visit Germany tomorrow, Sunday, to meet businessmen there and discuss their contribution to boosting the Palestinian economy in light of German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's recent visit to Jericho.

### League's 'Abd-al-Majid Cited on Arab World Issues

*MM0806113695 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Jun 95 p 5*

[Report by Hana' Bu-Hajji: "'Abd-al-Majid: We Reject Iran's Interference in Any Arab State's Internal Affairs"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Manama — Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah received yesterday Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, who is currently making a tour of the region. [passage omitted]

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT interviewed 'Abd-al-Majid, who stressed his complete rejection of "Iran's interference in the internal affairs of any Arab state." He said, "we hope that Iran will commit itself to the conduct which neighborliness dictates. We in the Arab League support the United Arab Emirates' claim to the three islands occupied by Iran."

On Algeria and the Arab League's position on the situation there 'Abd-al-Majid said that "Algeria is making its own efforts. The Arab League does not interfere in any Arab state's internal affairs. Nor has Algeria sought the Arab League's intervention."

On the Lockerbie case he said that "the recent proposal, to which Libya has agreed, is for the two defendants to stand trial before a Scottish court, but outside Scotland, England, and the United States. We believe that this is a sound position in which Libya has displayed flexibility and accepted this solution."

On the position on Iraq the Arab League secretary general said, "we sympathize with Iraq in its suffering, and we hope that matters will be restored to normal there. And that the Iraqi Government will implement the Security Council resolutions in order to eliminate the Iraqi people's suffering."

He also said that "the Security Council resolutions are the resolutions of international legitimacy, and we believe that the quicker Iraq complies with these resolutions, the quicker it will lift the suffering on its people."

### Investment in Algeria Halts, Increases in Lebanon

*NC0706164895 Paris AFP in English 1417 GMT 7 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, June 7 (AFP) — Arab investment in Algeria has ground to a complete halt since 1993 hit by Islamist violence which has engulfed the country, but has sharply risen in Lebanon, an Arab League economic report said Wednesday [7 June].

The report by the Council for Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) said Arab investment in Algeria, totalling 27.3 million dollars from 1990-1992, has fallen to zero since 1993.

Algeria has been hit by fundamentalist violence since the military cancelled elections in January 1992 which the Islamists were poised to win.

But Arab capital has flooded back into Lebanon, whose four million inhabitants are rebuilding after the 1975-1990 civil war.

Arab investment in Lebanon totalled 40 million dollars in 1994, compared with none in 1990-1993, the report said.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE), with less than two million inhabitants, received the most Arab investment in 1994, valuing 95.4 million dollars, or 26.3 percent of the total in the 22 Arab League member countries.

Egypt, with 60 million inhabitants, had the second largest amount with 85.9 million dollars, 23.5 percent of the total in 1994.

The CAEU added that only eight percent of total foreign trade by Arab nations was with other countries in the Arab world.

Only two percent of Arab investment — totalling 670 billion dollars — was invested in the Arab world in

1994, according to the General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce.

The CAEU, a specialized organization of the Arab League, comprises 11 members: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, the UAE, Yemen and the PLO.

## Palestinian Affairs

### 'Arafat-Christopher News Conference Reported

*JN1106153495 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat held a meeting today with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. The one-hour meeting dealt with the latest developments in the peace process, particularly on the Palestinian-Israeli track, as well as ways to implement the second phase of the Declaration of Principles and to respect the date agreed upon by the two parties.

During the meeting President 'Arafat reaffirmed the need for implementing the redeployment and holding the legislative elections as soon as possible in accordance with the agreement reached with the Israeli side.

Following the meeting, the president and the U.S. secretary of state held a news conference at the presidential office in Jericho. The president noted that he was happy for meeting the chief of U.S. diplomacy in the city of Jericho, describing the meeting as positive and fruitful in terms of advancing the peace process and implementing what was agreed upon. He reiterated his profound thanks to U.S. President Bill Clinton and Mr. Christopher for their efforts aimed at pushing the peace process ahead. He expressed hope that these efforts will continue until we achieve our objectives, particularly the implementation of the second phase of the Declaration of Principles, represented by the relocation of the Israeli occupation forces, holding the Palestinian legislative elections, and honoring 1 July as the deadline for the implementation.

President Yasir 'Arafat added: At the same time, we do not forget the effective role of Mr. Christopher on the Syrian-Israeli track because we aspire for a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East.

Speaking about the talks he held with President Yasir 'Arafat, the U.S. secretary said: I am pleased to be in Jericho for the second time to follow up the progress achieved in the peace process since the first visit. My visit is an expression of the U.S. Administration's concern for the Middle East peace process. Following my talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and my talks today, I have noticed that both sides demonstrate interest and determination to move ahead. I am confident that an agreement will be reached on the timetable regarding the suspended issues, including the redeployment of the Israeli Army from the West Bank, the transfer of powers, and the holding of Palestinian legislative elections.

Christopher said: I am pleased with President Yasir 'Arafat's determination to fulfill his pledges in the Declaration of Principles, particularly with regard to the security issues. I commend the efforts he exerted in this field, because we have to protect the peace process at any cost. The Palestinian leadership exerted genuine efforts, something which I have noticed on the ground. I discussed economic issues with Yasir 'Arafat. The National Authority [NA] has the right to expand and to develop, and the donor states should meet again to discuss ways of assistance and to fulfill their commitments. We, on our part, will work toward increasing the size of the assistance which we promised to extend. All parties should extend more aid, the chief of U.S. diplomacy said.

Christopher said: Holding the elections will give credibility. This will help the donor states fulfill their obligations and will encourage investments in National Authority areas. I have noticed that the negotiators are facing difficulties, however, I am confident that progress will be achieved in the talks. We will continue to support the peace-loving people in the region, including the Palestinian National Authority. I reiterate my thanks to President Yasir 'Arafat and his colleagues for their efforts to achieve progress in the peace process.

President Yasir 'Arafat and the U.S. secretary of state then answered the questions of the journalists and news agencies' correspondents. Answering a question on the statements by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, in which he said that 1 July is not a sacred date, Christopher said: Despite Rabin's statements, I know that both sides are exerting great efforts to set a timetable to implement the second phase of the Declaration of Principles. I commend both sides' efforts to make difficult decisions to reach the second phase. There is no doubt in both sides' seriousness to remove obstacles in the suspended issues.

On the progress in the negotiations between the two sides, Christopher said: There are extremely serious discussions being held among all parties. There are three major issues. The United States is trying to help the two parties in compliance with their wishes. We will be in contact with them until the set date. What counts is that the possibility of making progress and reaching tangible results before the elections does exist.

Answering a question on the U.S. role, Christopher said: The United States will continue to help all parties achieve progress. These parties have reached an agreement on a set date, and this is very important. I do not want to get into details. However, I have held talks with the Israeli officials and also with Chairman Yasir 'Arafat following previous talks held by Dennis Ross, the coordinator of the peace process. I have held extensive week-long talks with both parties which stressed the importance of the United States' sponsorship of the peace peace process and its assistance to achieve solutions to the unresolved problems.

President Yasir 'Arafat answered a question on changing the Palestinian National Charter, saying: I was not the one who changed the Palestinian National Charter. This is not one of my powers. First of all, a meeting should be held for the Palestine National Council [PNC] members who are also members of the PLO Central Council. Here, Israel should allow all these members to come here. The conduction of the elections will also help us fulfill our obligations, for this proves that there is credibility.

Answering a question on partial solutions at the second stage, President Yasir 'Arafat said: The Janin area is not the focal point at the negotiations. There are many issues which are included in the second stage. We hold talks on political, security, economic, and civilian issues. Meetings are continuing. Local Government Minister Sa'ib 'Urayqat holds talks on the elections, Civil Affairs Minister Jamil al-Tarifi holds talks on the transfer of powers, and Ahmad Quray' holds talks on economic issues. Solutions must be reached to all the unresolved daily problems facing the two sides.

The president said:

[Begin 'Arafat recording] First, this meeting was positive and useful. We discussed many issues. I thanked Mr. Christopher for his efforts and I asked him to convey special greetings to President Clinton for all his efforts to advance the peace process in the region, particularly the accurate and honest implementation of what has been agreed upon, particularly in early July concerning the redeployment, the transfer of powers, and after this, the elections.

I proudly say that Mr. Christopher's role during this tour is a constructive role, particularly with respect to the progress he has achieved on the Syrian track because we aspire for a comprehensive and just peace equation on all tracks whether on the Lebanese, Palestinian, Syrian, Jordanian, and other tracks. We hope for a just and comprehensive peace in the region that takes all these facts into consideration. [end recording]

## PA Officials, Adviser on 'Arafat-Christopher Talks

### Culture Minister 'Abd-Rabbuh Comments

*JN1106093595 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0700 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Report by Ahmad Zaki in Jericho]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] President Yasir 'Arafat received U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher at the Presidential Office in Jericho a short while ago. President Yasir 'Arafat and Christopher went to the conference room where they held discussions on the latest political developments, the peace process, and implementing the second part of the Declaration of Principles. [passage omitted]

Voice of Palestine held the following dialogue with Yasir 'Abd- Rabbuh, minister of culture and information, before the meeting:

[Begin recording] [Zaki] Mr. 'Abd-Rabbuh. What are the most important topics which the president and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will discuss today?

['Abd-Rabbuh] Discussion will mainly focus on the 1 July deadline for [Israeli] redeployment and preparing for Palestinian elections so long as this does not exceed next September. We believe that the United States now is under a real test. It either plays its role as sponsor and guarantor of the political process or continues the role of being biased toward one party and covering for Israeli procrastination. This constitutes a real threat to the balance of the political process in the region.

For our part, we value every progress achieved on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. However, we believe that the peace process should include all tracks and that Israeli procrastination will create a serious imbalance in the situation in the region.

There are other topics of discussion that deal with the United States' role, especially regarding promises to support the Palestinian Authority [PA]. Most of these promises have not been achieved on the economic level and other levels. The United States took responsibility of this issue since the beginning then its role in this field began to retract.

[Zaki] Many activities in addition to meetings between U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Yitzhaq Rabin, and Egyptian President Mubarak have been witnessed in Cairo recently. Considering the results of these meetings, Mubarak's message to President Yasir 'Arafat yesterday, and Warren Christopher's meeting with the Syrian side, is there anything on the horizon in light of these political moves?

['Abd-Rabbuh] So far, we cannot say that there is real progress. There are ongoing Palestinian-Israeli negotiations on the issue of redeployment and ideas are being exchanged. However, the ideas proposed by the Israeli side have nothing to do with the bases of the Oslo and Washington agreements. Indeed, instead of dealing with redeployment, these ideas are aimed at dividing and tearing the West Bank up into isolated cities and islands. This poses great dangers. Third parties have informed us about what Israelis have said on what was discussed in Cairo, in general. So far, there are general assurances that deadlines and agreements will be respected. But, when we review the details of Palestinian- Israeli negotiations we discover the total opposite.

[Zaki] President Yasir 'Arafat will leave for Cairo. What issues will he discuss with Mr. Mubarak?

['Abd-Rabbuh] There will be a meeting with President Mubarak during the next couple of days. The two sides will evaluate the entire political process following contacts held by the Egyptian side and contacts we are holding and we will see how the situation can be dealt with before the 1 July deadline.

[Zaki] Thank you. [end recording]

### Local Government Minister 'Urayqat Speaks

*NC1206071595 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[Telephone interview with Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, minister of local government with the Palestinian Authority, in Jericho, by Ashraf 'Abd-al-'Aziz, in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] ['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, welcome to the Voice of the Arabs.

['Urayqat] Thank you.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Let us first shed some light on the meeting that will be held in Cairo today between President Husni Mubarak and President Yasir 'Arafat.

['Urayqat] It is very obvious that Cairo has become the center of political gravity in the peace process. As we always say, for more than a year Egypt has been playing the role of the main sponsor of the peace process, especially since Russia has its own problems and the United States is biased toward Israel. The peace process lost its way as a result of Israel's practices, settlement policy, confiscation of lands, and failure to respect dates. Egypt is making intensive efforts with Israel, the United States, Europe, and the Arabs to put the process back on the track drafted for it in the Declaration of Principles. Ultimately, the peace process seeks not to reorganize the Israeli occupation but to end it, though in an experimental way. A three-way meeting between his excellency President Mubarak, U.S. Secretary Christopher, and Israeli Prime Minister Rabin was held in Cairo a few days ago. A meeting was held in Jericho yesterday between his excellency President 'Arafat and U.S. Secretary Christopher. And a meeting will be held between Presidents Mubarak and 'Arafat in Cairo today. All these meetings lead to the same thing and point to a certain date; namely, 1 July, which was set as the latest date for reaching an agreement on every aspect of the second stage, notably the redeployment of the Israeli forces and the holding of Palestinian elections, which have been delayed for at least one year.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Urayqat, in the meeting between President Yasir 'Arafat and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher yesterday, did the U.S. secretary convey to you new Israeli or U.S. proposals?

['Urayqat] Let us not exaggerate the U.S. role. The United States, undoubtedly, is the sponsor of the peace process, but on the Palestinian-Israeli negotiating track in particular there is a clear U.S. bias toward Israel. At any rate, in yesterday's meeting matters were clarified. The U.S. secretary was notified about the negative repercussions and implications of Israel's attempt to maneuver over the set date of 1 July. The U.S. secretary said that Washington wants to play a main role with the consent of the two sides. But here things are very clear. The Declaration of Principles has specific terms of reference; namely, the redeployment of the Israeli forces outside the populated areas in the West Bank, the holding of Palestinian elections, and then another redeployment in the rest of the West Bank after the elections. We want the U.S. sponsor, just for once, to play a firm role to support the points reached in Washington. We do not need new agreements but mechanisms to implement what we signed in Washington.

In the meeting, some economic subjects and Palestinian-U.S. relations were discussed. Some issues of concern to both sides were also emphasized, but most of the meeting was devoted to the possibility of the United States playing a basic role, because we do not want to hear Rabin saying over and over again that there are no sacred dates. The consequences will be very negative if Rabin once again disavows the 1 July date.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Urayqat, Israel says there are no sacred dates. In the light of your talks with the Israeli side and with the U.S. secretary of state, will Israel adhere to the target date of 1 July?

['Urayqat] We want this. The current intensive diplomatic activity in the region is focused on this issue. However, it seems there is a clear and wide gap between the two sides. Regarding the redeployment, Israel is trying to draw up the details of the redeployment according to the needs of the Israeli settlers and not the needs of the Israeli and Palestinian peoples. This is the dangerous thing, this is the main obstacle, these are the obstructions, these are the bombs that we say will explode in our face at any moment. Accordingly, the issue is very clear. The Israeli Government must take the initiative and must always remember that the aim of the peace process is to gradually end the occupation and not to reorganize the occupation. We will not be a party to the reorganization of the occupation. We joined the peace process on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. If we have agreed on gradual phases, this means the gradual termination of the occupation and not the reorganization of the occupation.

We want one thing from the United States. We want it to play its role as a sponsor of the peace process and as a party trying to remember and read the agreements signed in Washington and to find a mechanism for implementation. The terms of reference are very clear; they call for redeployment outside populated areas. If the settlements constitute an obstacle to Rabin, for 28 years we and the whole world have been saying that the settlements are obstacles to peace and must not be established by Israel. For Rabin to establish settlements, impose a fait accompli, and then speak [words indistinct], this is illogical.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Dr. 'Urayqat, in light of the positive developments on the Syrian-Israeli track and the anticipated progress on the Lebanese-Israeli track, can we expect peace in the region within one year?

['Urayqat] Let me say first that progress on the Syrian track, Lebanese track, or any other track is part of an overall solution that we seek to achieve. We want Israel to implement Resolution 242, that is, to withdraw from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and from the area it occupied in Southern Lebanon in 1978. The Arab parties, Israel, and the whole world realize that the key to peace in the Middle East is the resolution of all aspects of the Palestinian issue. Hence, the nucleus of the Arab-Israeli conflict remains the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem. Not resolving the Palestinian issue in all its aspects means this peace is not comprehensive, hence there will be no real peace in the region. I believe that the Israeli leadership realizes these facts. The U.S. Administration realizes these facts. The Arab world realizes these facts. Accordingly, we want a comprehensive, just, and permanent peace in the long run. But we say that if Israel tries to avoid resolving the Palestinian issue and to proceed with normalizing its relations with the Arab countries, it will utterly fail.

### Adviser Abu-Rudaynah Speaks

*JN1106111295 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Interview with Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser, by correspondent Ahmad Zaki in Jericho on 11 June—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Zaki] Brother Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, adviser to His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, can you sum up the results of His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat's meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher?

[Abu-Rudaynah] President 'Arafat submitted several issues. First, the issue of the need for Israel to respect 1 July as a starting point for the implementation of the agreements. President 'Arafat stressed the need for the immediate transfer of powers to the Palestinian side. President 'Arafat also called for the Israeli Army's redeployment in preparation for holding the Palestinian elections as soon as possible.

The United States continues to exert efforts with the Israeli side. As you know, Egypt also exerts intensive efforts in this respect. President 'Arafat will visit Cairo tomorrow. There is a race with time until 1 July. The Palestinian side submitted explicit demands to the Americans. The Americans promised to pursue intensive efforts with the Israeli side. As was announced, Dennis Ross will soon visit the region to follow up on what was agreed. The United States exerts serious efforts. The Americans told us what impression they got from their talks with the Israelis. President 'Arafat explained that 1 July is a deadline that should be respected in preparation for the transfer of powers, the redeployment, and holding elections. The Palestinian demand was explicit. The Americans said they understand the need to respect this deadline to preserve the peace process. We hope that the Americans will fulfill their promises to the Palestinian side, to President 'Arafat this morning.

[Zaki] Can we consider 1 July as the first day for the Israeli withdrawal from the remaining Palestinian territories and what about the U.S. promises to bring pressure to bear on Israel in this field in particular?

[Abu-Rudaynah] The 1 July deadline is for reaching an understanding on the implementation of the agreements. There will be a specific timetable and we hope it will be respected. But, as I told you, until now there is no explicit or specific Israeli stand. The Israelis continue to procrastinate. But, the United States pursues its efforts. So far, we do not see any serious Israeli step on the ground. But, we hope that the U.S. efforts and the Arab efforts will succeed in bringing pressure on Israel to have it commit itself to carrying out its promises. However, we say that there is still ample time until 1 July. Let us wait and see. But, it is certain that the United States exerts intensive efforts. Christopher conveyed to President 'Arafat President Clinton's greetings and his interest in rendering the peace process a success. We are waiting. As I told you, Palestinian, U.S., and Egyptian efforts continue. We hope that the Israelis will respect 1 July.

[Zaki] With respect to Egypt, it plays an active diplomatic role on the Arab level. His excellency the president will leave for Cairo tomorrow. Can you sum up the topics President 'Arafat will discuss with President Husni Mubarak?

[Abu-Rudaynah] First of all, these visits are for consultation. Thus, the Egyptians, thus, get to know what is being discussed between us, the Israelis, and the Americans. The Egyptians also brief us on their intensive efforts with the Americans and the Israelis. These visits also are a continuation of the Palestinian- Egyptian consultations at summit level. As I said, the president will visit Cairo tomorrow to assess the Palestinian-U.S. round of talks and the Egyptian, U.S., Israeli talks and to formulate on their basis plans to counter all eventualities that may arise from now until 1 July.

[Zaki] Mr. Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, thank you.

### 'Arafat Receives Message From Mubarak

*NC1006144795 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Jericho, 10 Jun (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat today received a message from President Husni Mubarak dealing with the outcome of the tripartite meeting held in Cairo yesterday between President Mubarak, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

The message was conveyed by Palestinian Ambassador in Cairo Zuhdi al-Qidrah who was received by President 'Arafat at the Palestinian Authority headquarters in Jericho.

Al-Qidrah said President Mubarak's message to President 'Arafat deals with the outcome of yesterday's tripartite meeting in Cairo, especially regarding the Palestinian-Israeli talks and overcoming Israeli obstacles to and procrastination in implementing the second phase of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles.

A MENA correspondent has learned that Palestinian President 'Arafat will visit Cairo on Monday [12 June] to hold a meeting with President Husni Mubarak. During his stay in Cairo, 'Arafat will discuss the progress of Palestinian-Israeli talks in light of the efforts Egypt has made with all parties to remove the obstacles to implementation of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles.

### Al-Qidrah on Mubarak's Message to 'Arafat

*JN1006171195 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Palestinian Ambassador to Cairo Zuhdi al-Qidrah conveyed a message to President Yasir 'Arafat from his brother Egyptian President Hunsi Mubarak.

Al-Qidrah spoke on this subject in an interview with our colleague Ahmad Zaki.

[Begin recording] [Zaki] Mr. Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Palestinian ambassador and representative of the Palestinian Authority in Cairo, good afternoon.

[Al-Qidrah] Good afternoon.

[Zaki] Today you arrived suddenly in the Palestinian Authority's territory. What do you carry with you?

[Al-Qidrah] I arrived from Cairo carrying a message from President Mubarak to his brother President Abu-'Ammar ['Arafat] which deals with latest developments in light of the tripartite meeting held yesterday between President Mubarak, Rabin, and Warren Christopher.

[Zaki] How is the atmosphere in Cairo following the meeting?

[Al-Qidrah] We hope that the atmosphere will be positive, and I believe that President Abu-'Ammar will meet with his brother His Excellency President Mubarak within the next few hours.

[Zaki] Do you think that 1 July will be on agenda of Presidents 'Arafat and Mubarak's meeting?

[Al-Qidrah] I think so.

[Zaki] Thank you.

[Al-Qidrah] Thank you. [end recording]

### Official Reviews Weekly Cabinet Meeting

*JN1006203095 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1755 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat has briefed the Palestinian National Authority's Council of Ministers on the latest political developments in the region, the developments on the Palestinian track, the visits by several European and U.S. officials, the forthcoming visit by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to Jericho tomorrow, and the contacts held with sisterly Arab states.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, the Presidency secretary general, said: The president said that there is still a very large gap between the Palestinian and Israeli viewpoints that are being exchanged through the approved channels. He said no agreement has been reached yet on the place and extent of redeployment. The president added that the Israelis presented maps on redeployment which are ambiguous, unclear, and conflict with the Declaration of Principles. Despite all the letters and assurances, which were conveyed by international officials, it seems that the Israelis still lack a clear political decision to arrive at an agreement on the transitional phase. There is also no clear indication to confirm that the Israelis are in the process of implementing the redeployment to allow us to hold elections and assume all powers. President 'Arafat said: We displayed all possible flexibility throughout last year to arrive at an agreement on the transitional phase. The security gaps which Israel used as pretexts are no longer there on the Palestinian side. Many of these gaps still exist on the Israeli side.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim said: The Council of Ministers accepted the principles concerning the Palestinian-Israeli track as presented by the president, who said that in these negotiations we seek to secure respect for the 1 July deadline so we can hold Palestinian elections in early September. The credibility of the peace process in the eyes of the Palestinian people and the region will be put to the test in early July. Any delay will prompt us to seek international arbitration from the cosponsors, the regional states concerned with the peace process, and the EU.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added: The Council of Ministers took note of the letters of invitations extended by the president to the EU commissioner general and the French foreign minister — since France is the current EU president — in which he asked the EU to assume the role of a general coordinator in the supervision of the Palestinian legislative and presidential elections. The EU member states will set the working plan for the international observers. The president stressed that all stages of the Palestinian elections will be open for supervision, including the registration of voters and candidates, complaints, canvassing, voting, and vote counting.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that the Council of Ministers also took note that the EU commissioner general informed Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, head of the Palestinian elections committee, that a European team will arrive in the National Authority's area to start the official preparations for the international supervision [of elections].

The secretary general of the Presidency said that Jamil al-Tarifi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the talks on the transfer of powers, has submitted a report to the council on these talks, based on the two latest rounds held in Cairo. The council was apprised of the directions his excellency the president issued to the head of the Palestinian delegation to these talks. The president instructed that the talks on the transfer of all powers must continue. Likewise, he stressed the need to complete, before the end of June, the transfer of the eight powers agreed between President 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres last month. The council noted that the Israeli side is dragging its feet over the implementation of the agreement on the transfer of these powers.

Al-Tayyib added that the council listened to a report submitted by Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation, on the brief visit he made to Jordan at the invitation of the Jordanian foreign minister, and also on the contents of the message the president asked him to relay to His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian Government on the recent political developments concerning contacts the president has made and the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations.

Dr. Sha'th reported, al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim said, that the Jordanian Government is ready to support the Palestinian position, which demands a blanket agreement on redeployment in the West Bank, the holding of elections, and the transfer of power ahead of the 1 July 1995 deadline. The Jordanian Government, Dr. Sha'th added, is also willing to cooperate with the National Authority and support it in all areas. [Jordanian Prime Minister] His Excellency al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir and the Jordanian foreign minister recalled the position of the fraternal Jordanian Government, which abandoned responsibility for religious endowments and Islamic courts in the West Bank in favor of the National Authority. Moreover, the Jordanian Government expressed its readiness to keep the Jericho crossing open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, just as it is doing at the Rafah crossing. The Jordanian Government also demonstrated its willingness to cooperate fully with the National Authority in the implementation of joint projects.

Dr. Sha'th also noted, al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim said, that [Jordanian Foreign Minister] al-Kabariti accepted an invitation to visit the National Authority in Gaza before 1 July.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim said that the council decided to use the 10 million Deutsche marks Mr. Kohl promised to grant the National Authority during his recent visit to finance water projects in the cities of Hebron, Gaza, and Jericho. The council endorsed the plans submitted by the municipalities of these Palestinian cities to dig new wells or repair water networks there.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that the Council of Ministers was apprised of the banks' activities in the National Authority areas. Based on a report submitted by the finance minister, the council noted that these banks have thus far not carried out any real investment in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and that most of them are not interested in creating a real investment climate since they are more interested in making quick and large profits through the high interest they get. However, there is no denying that these banks pay interest to depositors.

The council urged these banks, which collected approximately $500 million in deposits and deposited them in foreign banks, to return these deposits and to invest them in fulfillment of the wishes of the political authority. This conduct on the part of the banks is what prompted donor nations not to honor their commitments.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim said that his excellency the president urged wealthy Palestinian expatriates, who are not in short supply, to walk in the footsteps of Rothschild—something that we have continued to miss.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that the Council of Ministers urged the Palestinian capitalists abroad to participate in building the Palestinian economy and that the Palestinian capital should aim to end the suffering of our people and make investments that provide job opportunities for our people, and ensure self-dependence and freedom of our economy. He said we have all the capabilities if all forces and efforts are mobilized and if we depend on ourselves.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that the council was briefed on the agreement concluded by Nabil Sha'th with the Spanish minister of international cooperation which will be signed in the next 24 hours in Gaza. The signing ceremony will be attended by the president. The agreement with the Spanish Government includes a grant by $16 million to finance the airport units in Gaza, $1 million to construct four playgrounds in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and $6 million to finance the purchase of equipment for the municipalities of Nabulus, Hebron, Gaza, and Jericho, and other contributions for West Bank hospitals. The contributions will also support the exports of flowers and vegetables. The Palestinian television and radio will receive $5 million in assistance.

The council was also briefed on the agreement concluded with the Netherlands Government, which will be signed this month. The signing of the agreement will be attended by the president. The agreement includes a grant of $32 million to construct the Gaza port and train its staff. It will also include $9 million that will be paid in cash to the authority and the Palestinian police during June, in addition to $5 million to support the municipalities' projects and agriculture in the West Bank and Gaza.

Dr. Sha'th was entrusted with continuing cooperation to implement the agreements with Germany that were concluded during Chancellor Kohl's visit to the authority and his meeting with the president.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim added that in light of the UN Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] austerity decision concerning costs of medical treatment for Palestinian refugees, Dr. Nabil Sha'th was asked to follow up on this subject with the UNRWA's director in order to maintain the services it extends to the refugees with emphasis on the need for the UNRWA to continue its role until the refugee question is solved in the final stage.

'Abd-al-Rahim said the UNRWA should cut down its other expenses such as the huge salaries it pays for international employees, of whom the Palestinian employees are not more than 1 percent. He added that the UNRWA's expenses on the health and educational services should not be reduced, and the National Authority is ready to cooperate with the agency in these fields because the authority is aware that there is an attempt to halt the agency's mission in order to end the refugees' cause before reaching a solution that is in line with the resolutions of the international legitimacy.

The council adopted a decision to activate the Jerusalem municipality to carry out the role it assumed when it was elected before the June war. Six members of that municipality are still alive and are present in the homeland. The letter of assurances presented by the Israeli Government on safeguarding the Palestinian establishments in Jerusalem is applicable to this municipality. The council decided that this municipality will answer to President 'Arafat, in his capacity as chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, which signed the agreement with the Israeli Government.

The council adopted a number of administrative decisions.

### Al-Nashashibi on Cabinet Meeting, Christopher's Visit

*JN1006165795 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[Telephone interview with PA Finance Minister Dr. Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi by radio correspondent Ahmad Zaki in Jericho "on the results of the Palestinian Cabinet meeting which ended a short while ago," on 10 June from the "Today's Events" feature — live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Zaki] What are the results of the cabinet meeting?

[Al-Nashashibi] The National Authority [NA; Palestinian Authority, PA] Council of Ministers held an important session today under the chairmanship of brother President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The Cabinet discussed many issues, particularly Dennis Ross's visit; the Cairo meeting between President Husni Mubarak, Rabin, and Mr. Christopher; and the talks on elections and redeployment. Regarding the elections talks, there is rapid progress. However, regarding the relocation talks there is no progress, on the contrary there is a big gap between the Palestinian and Israeli stands. Therefore, we believe that everything depends on achieving progress in the relocation talks.

The NA also discussed the decision made by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] to reduce medical aid and care extended to the Palestinians. We decided to follow up on this issue with the UNRWA and we asked the Health Ministry to extend all possible aid in this regard.

We also discussed the situation in Hebron. In fact, we feel that we should have maintained a police force in Hebron, and we are tackling this issue responsibly. We decided to allocate $2.4 million to dig a well in Hebron to supply all areas with water. Also, we discussed allocating other amounts from the German grant for water issues in Jericho and Gaza. The $2.4 million will come from the German grant and will be used to supply the Hebron area with drinking water. The NA Cabinet discussed the issue of the Housing Council and the Housing Ministry. The issue of Jerusalem was at the top of our agenda.

We adopted the appropriate decisions. We also decided to activate the subcommittees, which were formed by the Council of Ministers, particularly the committee in charge of following up on the elections. This committee will hold a meeting tomorrow.

[Zaki] President 'Arafat today received an important message from Egyptian President Mubarak. What are the contents of this message?

[Al-Nashashibi] The message deals with what took place in the tripartite Cairo meeting. I believe this is all that we can reveal in this regard.

[Zaki] Dr. Muhammad, we are getting closer to 1 July. Some camps are being dismantled in the occupied territory? Are we really approaching the implementation of the second phase of the Oslo accord?

[Al-Nashashibi] Yes, yes. There is determination on the part of the NA and there are Arab and international pressures to make Israel implement what it signed so that all agreements on the second phase will be accomplished before by 1 July.

There are attempts to show that Israel is making offers regarding the transfer of powers. I would like to say there is progress in this regard. We decided to immediately discuss with them the restoration of eight ministries, or eight powers, and to continue the discussion so that we will take over the rest of the powers before the end of the current month. However, the most important issue is to achieve an essential and tangible progress in the relocation talks because everything depends on this.

[Zaki] What are the obstacles to this?

[Al-Nashashibi] As you know, the Israelis have not defined a clear and real stand vis-a-vis redeployment. As stated in the agreement, they should abide by the need to redeploy by the eve of the elections, so that the [Israeli] civil administration will be desolved and the military administration withdrawn.

[Zaki] There are reports on redeployment in four Palestinian cities?

[Al-Nashashibi] This is absolutely baseless. We have not discussed this; we are discussing full withdrawal?

[Zaki] Are you satisfied with the U.S. role which will be crowned tomorrow by the meeting between President 'Arafat and the U.S. secretary of state?

[Al-Nashashibi] I do not want to speak about satisfaction or dissatisfaction. Satisfaction depends on the results. If the results are good there will be satisfaction.

[Zaki] Have you discussed the visit tomorrow by the U.S. secretary of state and what he will bring with him?

[Al-Nashashibi] Yes, we discussed Christopher's visit in detail.

[Zaki] Is there anything new?

[Al-Nashashibi] There is nothing new. However, we adhere to the declared Palestinian stand.

### Officials Doubt Rabin's Resolve To Meet 1 Jul Deadline

*NC1006174895 Paris AFP in English*
*1539 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Jericho, West Bank, June 10 (AFP) — PLO officials reacted angrily Saturday [10 June] to remarks by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin that July 1 was only a "target" and not a deadline for agreeing an extension of Palestinian autonomy.

"The declarations by Mr. Rabin show he is not committed to the July 1 date," said local government "minister" Sa'ib 'Urayqat after a meeting of the Palestinian self-rule "cabinet" here.

Rabin said Friday [9 June] after talks in Cairo with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak that the July 1 date for an accord on the next phase of Palestinian self-rule was "not a deadline but a target date."

An agreement on an Israeli redeployment of troops away from Palestinian towns on the West Bank ahead of Palestinian elections is already a year behind schedule, and both sides had agreed to try to reach a deal by July 1.

"What does Mr. Rabin want? Another year? Does he want to make Gaza-Jericho a hostage so he can tear up the peace process?" asked 'Urayqat.

He said the need to respect the date would top the agenda at Sunday's talks between PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and Christopher in the self-rule enclave of Jericho on the West Bank.

Palestinian cooperation "minister" Nabil Sha'th said the July 1 date "must be taken seriously, otherwise the whole peace process will fall apart."

He warned the Palestinians would not allow Israel to shirk its responsibilities.

Culture "minister" Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said it was "essential" that agreement was reached by July 1, otherwise the peace process would lose credibility.

If the date was not kept the Palestinians would ask for "an international arbitration" which could involve an appeal to the co-sponsors of the peace process, Russia and the United States.

'Arafat would chair a high-level Palestinian meeting Sunday to decide on how to make progress, 'Abd-Rabbuh added.

The PLO leader is to go to Cairo on Monday for talks with Mubarak on the peace process.

### U.S. Asked To Serve as 'Partner' in Peace Process

*JN1106083295 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic*
*0520 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Station commentary by Yusuf al-Qazzaz from the "New Day" feature"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Palestinian-U.S. meeting between His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Jericho today will be an important one. It is important because Christopher's tour of the region is the first following the famous U.S. veto on Israel's confiscation of Palestinian lands in Jerusalem by which Washington rejected the international decision to force Israel to stop the confiscation of Palestinian lands. The meeting is also important because the Palestinian command will start the discussion with Christopher from the U.S. stand on Jerusalem.

With respect to the Palestinians, Jerusalem is the capital of their state. It represents their spirit, their hearts, and their minds which are linked to faith, Heaven, and God. No power on this earth can wrest the faith in God from the Palestinian, Islamic, Christian, or Arab hearts, consciences, or minds.

We tell the United States and the world that all Middle East peace equations on this land could vanish and collapse if the Jerusalem issue is not solved in accordance with the Palestinian, Arab, Islamic, and Christian dimensions.

It is true that the official U.S. stand on Palestinian and Arab Jerusalem is that it has been occupied territory since 1967. But, it is also true that the United States could substantiate and confirm such a stand by rejecting Israel's settlements plans in Jerusalem and by rejecting the ludicrous game by a group of U.S. senators who are infatuated with the idea of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and who seek to transfer the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. These are no less dangerous to peace than any group of Israeli settlers in any settlement that was established on Palestinian land.

As Palestinian people and command, we will not deal with the U.S. policy outside the framework of the peace process. We accepted peace with Israel but Israel did not implement the principles of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement. The nonimplementation of these principles weakens the U.S. role in the peace process and will subject the logic of peace to the Israeli logic which is famous for its procrastination and intransigence. We know that U.S. political action in the Middle East has another objective, that of pushing ahead the Israeli-Syrian track.

The question now is if the United States is incapable of pushing ahead the Palestinian-Israeli peace track, can it push ahead the Israeli-Syrian track toward the attainment of peace?

We explicitly say that the Palestinian and Arab people still believe that Israel's procrastination in committing itself to the peace agreements is one facet of U.S. policy. We still view Israeli settlements as another facet of U.S. policy because Washington finances the building of settlements. We also continue to believe that the continued presence of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails as yet another facet of U.S. policy, not to mention the policy of closure and siege and the obstruction of the implementation of the agreements reached with the Israelis. We do not believe that the viewpoint of our Arab nation on this differs from the one we have here on our land.

The United States has to understand that the Arab nation's lack of response and its distrust of the Israeli policy stems from Israel's nonabidance by the peace process with the Palestinians. Real, just, and comprehensive peace, a peace that secures a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital starts by peace with the Palestinians first so that peace with the Arabs can be achieved later on. The Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty is an obvious example of this. This treaty did not achieve comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the region because Palestinian peace was not realized first.

Can the United States present another face to the Arabs and the Palestinians? Yes, Washington can be a real sponsor of the peace process and a partner in this operation, a partner which has an international sense of responsibility and not a defender of Israel's policy as has taken place with the issue of the confiscation of Palestinian lands in Jerusalem.

As yet, the Arab nation and the Palestinians have not lost patience but patience has limits.

### Fatah Denounces Attack on 'Peaceful' March

*JN1106195495 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Report by Rashid Hilal in Ramallah]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Higher Organizational Committee of the Fatah Movement in the West Bank has denounced the criminal attack the Israeli occupation troops carried out against a student march that was heading for the roadblock situated near the al-Barid suburb in northern Jerusalem at approximately 1500 today.

In a statement issued this evening, the Higher Organizational Committee reiterated that the deployment of hundreds of Israeli soldiers at the assembly area of the marchers this morning clearly shows the premeditated Israeli intentions to attack this peaceful march on the pretext that it was not licensed in advance. It is to be recalled that the Israeli side does not grant any licenses to stage such marches.

The statement added: The violence that marked the attack on this march and the opening of fire on demonstrators show premeditated Israeli intentions, which are part of an escalation aimed at obstructing the continued implementation of the peace agreements.

The Higher Organizational Committee demanded the immediate release of all those detained during the demonstration. Otherwise, this violence will usher in further escalation.

On today's events, Dr. Samir Shihadah, director general of the Institutions Bureau, said:

[Begin Shihadah recording] One can safely say that the violent attack by the occupation troops against brother Marwan al-Barghuthi, secretary of the Higher Committee of the Fatah Movement in the West Bank; brother Jamal al-Dik, secretary of the Institutions Bureau and member of the Higher Committee; and brother Ahmad Ghunaym is a great escalation basically targeted against the peace process and the Fatah Movement, which is the mainstay of the ongoing peace process. It goes without saying that we within the movement, as mentioned in the statement, denounce such acts. The occupation authorities must not carry out such attacks against Fatah cadres and leaders once again. [end recording]

For his part, Jamal al-Shawbaki, member of the Higher Organizational Committee, also commented on this incident, saying:

[Begin al-Shawbaki recording] As a matter of fact, the march kicked off from the al-Ummah College to the al-Ram roadblock. No sooner had the marchers walked 100 meters than the soldiers attacked the demonstrators violently and unjustifiably. They opened fire, used teargas, and violently and unjustifiably beat demonstrators. The whole episode is just indescribable. The march was completely peaceful. The marchers demanded an end to the closure of Jerusalem so that our Palestinian people may have access to the city. The Israeli violence used to deal with this peaceful march was extremely exaggerated. It is my belief that this violence was carefully premeditated. It is surprising that we within the Fatah Movement, who are expressing ourselves through completely peaceful means, should become victims of such violence and such intolerance. I do not know what is the answer to this. When we use peaceful means, we are confronted with violence. I do not know what is required of the Fatah Movement. I wonder how the Fatah

Movement can express itself in the future. [end recording]

As for Sabri al-Tumayzi, head of the Central Student Bureau, which organized this march, asserted that he reserves for himself the right to defend this peaceful march. He added:

[Begin al-Tumayzi recording] The Student Bureau organized the march. Fatah leaders and members of the Higher Organizational Committee were involved in the preparations for this march. The marchers were met with a fierce onslaught by the occupation troops. This prompts us to adhere to our right to defend the Arab identity of Jerusalem, its character, and its image as the eternal capital of Palestine by all available means. This barbaric conduct by the occupation troops will only promote our determination to forge ahead with the peace process, keeping in mind the fact that there can be no peace without Jerusalem, no peace without releasing prisoners, and no peace without our people exercising the right to repatriation. [end recording]

### Hamas, Fatah Preparations for Elections Reported

*TA1106082095 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Report by Yoni Ben-Menahem]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] has been deliberating for a long time whether to participate as a movement in the elections for the autonomy council if the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] withdraws from the West Bank. The movement's young guard is pragmatically promoting the establishment of an Islamic movement that will have no formal link to Hamas but whose elected members will represent the organization's stands. Hamas employed this concept in the West Bank chamber of commerce elections, when it set up Islamic lists and even won the elections in several locations.

Shaykh Ahmad Bahr, one of the Hamas leaders in the Gaza Strip, asserts that participation in elections does not mean Hamas will discontinue its military arm's activities, while Dr. Mahmud al-Zahhar rejects any talk of either participation in the elections or the establishment of a party before the Palestinian Authority publishes a law regulating partisan activity. Only then will we decide, he says. Al-Zahhar stresses, however, that attacks against Israel are a Hamas strategy that is not going to be forsworn.

Fatah activists maintain that due to the peace process, the movement has become almost a political party. Talal Abu-'Afifa, member of the Fatah supreme committee in the West Bank, says: [passage omitted] Fatah will participate in the elections like any other movement or party, he says, which is why the current stage demands that 'Arafat and the PLO leadership introduce certain changes and new elements in the movement. Yet some Fatah members hesitate to turn it into a political movement before the IDF redeployment in the West Bank is completed.

An air of elections hangs over the territories. New parties and movements, such as Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi's, have been established, and all are waiting for the start of the IDF redeployment.

### Abu-Middayn: Land Sales to Jews Treason, Warrants Death

*TA1206102695 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Furayh Abu-Middayn, official in charge of the justice portfolio in the Palestinian Authority, has said that an East Jerusalem or West Bank Palestinian who sells his land to Israelis, directly or indirectly, is a traitor and deserves to die.

Our correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem reports that Abu-Middayn further said many landowners in East Jerusalem and the West Bank suffer serious economic distress and therefore sell their land to Jews. They must realize, however, that this is wrong and that they should take an lesson from the residents of the Gaza Strip who kept their land for years and did not sell a single grain of sand to the Israelis.

## Arab-Israeli Talks

### Israeli Sources: Palestinians To Create Talks' Crisis

*TA1206052295 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Palestinians are due to receive information this week on redeployment in the West Bank. Official Israeli sources pose that following the transfer of the information, there will be a crisis in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. According to the sources, the Palestinians will bring about the crisis in order to pressure Israel into meeting their demands.

### Israel's Shahal Meets PA's Sha'th on Prisoners

*TA1106182695 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Police Minister Moshe Shahal has agreed to ease the prison conditions of security prisoners and to increase the number of family visits, even during periods of closure. Minister Shahal reached this decision after meeting Palestinian Authority [PA] representative Nabil Sha'th.

Our correspondent Aviv Bushinsky reports that the meeting took place in Jerusalem and that the two officials primarily discussed issues related to the security prisoners and the efforts to finalize the next stage of the agreement with the Palestinians before the beginning of July.

Faysal al-Husayni said that since it was Israel that set the 1 July target date for the implementation of the interim arrangement, he expects this timetable to be met. Al-Husayni nevertheless stated that he would not recommend resuming the intifadah if Israel failed to implement the agreement by the start of next month. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar reports that al- Husayni was speaking at a meeting of the Labor Party's Mashov circle.

## Algeria

### Dembri Remarks on Domestic Situation Reported

*AU0806174995 Vienna Oesterreich Eins Radio Network in German 1600 GMT 8 Jun 95*

[Report by Konstanze Ripper including interview with Foreign Minister Muhamad Salah Dembri in Vienna on 8 June — recorded; Dembri statements in French with superimposed German translation]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] The Algerian foreign minister is currently visiting Vienna. Algeria is Austria's most important trading partner in the southern Mediterranean region. Last year, Austrian exports to Algeria rose by 57 percent and imports grew 14 percent. Austria's entry into the EU has created further economic opportunities. However, the domestic situation in Maghreb country is still very unstable. Social friction, a state of emergency, terrorism, political assassinations and human rights violations on the part of both the government and Islamic fundamentalists determine the political climate in Algeria. Here is a report by Konstanze Ripper:

[Ripper] Foreign Minister Muhamad Salah Dembri is a member of a provisional government that has been in power since 1992. Free elections held then were halted by a putsch after it had become that the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front, FIS, was the clear victor. The FIS wanted to be elected democratically in order to dismantle democracy. This dilemma still shapes politics in Algeria today. The FIS was banned and a civil war erupted, one in which 30,000 and 40,000 have been killed so far. The FIS has very many supporters among economically and socially weak Algerians, and they comprise a majority of the population, because it is very much involved in social issues in keeping with Moslem tradition. However, the government will not negotiate with the FIS as long as it does not renounce violence and terrorism. The FIS would be allowed to take part in the free presidential and parliamentary elections that are to be held this year if it signs a declaration clearly denouncing violence says Foreign Minister Dembri. However, people will only turn away from fundamentalism if their circumstances improve.

[Dembri] Extremist ideas have never survived for long wherever there is solid social and economic development. That is why we have to set this kind of development in motion. We are an Islamic society, but we have to keep our religion, which is a religion teaching tolerance, out of political conflicts. We have to work for human rights, civic sovereignty, a state based on the rule of law, and a democratic constitution as well as against terrorism as a means of gaining power.

[Ripper] The FIS and other opposition parties have already offered to hold negotiations with the government about the future of the country. What they want in return is a lifting of the ban on the FIS and a conference on national reconciliation. However, as long as intellectuals, journalists, foreigners, and members of other religions are murdered, there is nothing to discuss said Foreign Minister Dembri.

[Dembri] Algeria certainly needs all its children to the extent that basic liberties, human rights, and the renunciation of any form of violence constitute our basis, day-to-day beliefs.

[Ripper] However, the human rights record of the government, which is supported by the military, is itself not all that good according to reports prepared by the human rights organization Amnesty International. Murder and torture is also used against fundamentalists and people who are not involved in the conflict. Whether free elections really will be held this year is questionable. If FIS really does renounce violence and receives a majority of votes once again, the dilemma will be the same as in 1992.

### Says 'No Civil War' in Country

*AU0806205695 Vienna ORF Television Network in German 2010 GMT 8 Jun 95*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Muhamad Salah Dembri by Robert Hochner in Vienna — live; Dembri's statements in French with simultaneous translation into German]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Hochner] Mr. Minister, if one sees pictures of the events in your country, one wonders how long the government, the regime can continue its fight against the Islamists. When will the fundamentalists win?

[Dembri] I believe that at first one must correct one view in this respect. There is no civil war in Algeria. There is a certain situation and a government that is trying to maintain its constitutional mission. It is trying to protect property and persons, and it is trying to act against terrorist violence and against destabilization. Furthermore, it is trying to prevent terrorist groups, which would not observe the rules of democracy, from ever attaining power. This is our problem.

[Hochner] Can one fight against the Islamic extremists, against the Islamic terrorists with purely military methods?

[Dembri] I believe that we are trying to use all possible democratic means together. First, we are entering into a dialogue with all political forces which are legal in our country. Then, the people, who are suffering from the consequences of terrorism, are themselves trying to do something and to help the government. It is logical that at the same time we must also try to respect the rules of the constitutional state. Simultaneously, we are trying to fight against the phenomenon of terrorism.

[Hochner] Can this terrorism, this fundamentalist terrorism be fought as long as there are no free elections in Algeria?

[Dembri] I believe that there is a clear answer to that. Nowadays terrorist splinter groups are active in Algeria, which are increasingly isolated in our society. They attack persons, they attack economic facilities and institutions, they attack schools. I believe that the assassination of two Frenchmen just yesterday is another piece of evidence that their intention is to destabilize the country and that these groups are not just interested in destabilizing everyday life but also to associate themselves with groups which are no longer quite effective today.

The biggest problem we had in Algeria is already a thing of the past. Today we are in a different situation. Today we are looking for a national consensus. We are trying to hold such elections as you mentioned. We are trying to respect the constitutional principles and the people's basic rights. We try doing this by preserving and protecting Islam. It, too, belongs to all of us and should be kept free from political debates.

[Hochner] Can you imagine that the government might negotiate with the Islamists, that it might recognize the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]?

[Dembri] There is a very clear basis: One respects each other and, in particular, one respects the constitution. We tell all political forces that they must act within a legal framework. The constitution must be respected, the basic rights must be preserved, there must be the possibility for a change in power, there must be a sovereign people, and any kind of terrorism and violence must be rejected. These are the basic targets that we have set, and one must also keep Islam out of the political controversy. The Algerian Constitution guarantees the protection of Islam. After all, it is our national religion. For this reason any party and any group that observes this political contract can be accepted. These will then be democratic partners.

[Hochner] The FIS could also be such a partner?

[Dembri] Any party that respects these targets and these principles can be a partner. The FIS was banned by a judicial decision and not by an administrative decision. The FIS used all possible means to appeal this decision and went to the Supreme Court. The current problem regarding the actions of the FIS leaders is that some of the principles which I have just mentioned are not always observed. We are an open democracy. We exercise tolerance on the one hand and, on the other, we also observe all the great rules that all societies all over the world have set down for themselves.

[Hochner] Mr. Minister, thank you very much for your visit and for this interview.

### On Legalization of FIS, Elections

*AU0906142595 Vienna DER STANDARD in German 9 Jun 95 p 3*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Muhamad Salah Dembri by Erhard Stackl and Brigitte Voykowitsch in Vienna; date not given: "We Are the Moderate Muslims"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [DER STANDARD] In the past few months, the Algerian regime has massively intensified its struggle against the Islamists. Nevertheless, the situation seems to be out of control. Can the fight be won or is the takeover by the Islamists unavoidable, as the British ECONOMIST wrote recently?

[Dembri] Such statements are greatly exaggerated. Terrorism in Algeria is on the decline, thanks to the measures that the state leadership has taken to guarantee the people's security.

The government under President Zeroual has achieved the major objectives of its political and economic program. Presidential elections are to be held before the end of the year. In cooperation with the IMF, we have laid the foundation for a functioning market economy.

For me there is reason for hope. The whole nation rejects violence.

[DER STANDARD] Do you really think that it is possible to hold elections under the present conditions?

[Dembri] We have the means to guarantee safe and absolutely sound elections. Moreover, we committed ourselves to admit international election observers and media. Of course, there might be marginal acts of violence for all that.

[DER STANDARD] Two days ago in The Hague, you mentioned the possibility that the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) might be legalized again. The prerequisite would be that the FIS renounces violence and respects the Constitution. Would you really be prepared to trust the FIS once again?

[Dembri] He who wants to participate in political events has to respect the rule-of-law state, the Constitution, and pluralism and has to renounce violence and terrorism. He who does that proves that he is a good democrat.

The old FIS was dissolved, the point is now to create new political dynamism.

[DER STANDARD] But can you envisage a moderate FIS? Can there be moderate Islamists?

[Dembri] We are there. We are the moderate Islam. Algeria's Islam is an Islam of tolerance and democracy. This Islam must be kept out of party policy controversies because we all have it in common.

[DER STANDARD] But who could be your partners for a dialogue in the FIS? The FIS leaders are imprisoned.

[Dembri] There are many possibilities, there are members of the former FIS who commit themselves politically. We must give them the chance to join the pluralist dynamism.

[DER STANDARD] Does one not have to fear a repetition of the past? The old regime had come to terms with the Islamists and virtually supported them in their struggle against secularism since the seventies. Then, at the end of 1991, when the FIS was on the verge of coming to power by democratic means, the regime canceled the second ballot in panic.

[Dembri] I am not concerned about that for the simple reason that we do not make any compromises with the Islamists. The basis for the dialogue is the democratic Constitution of 1989, which has to be respected.

[DER STANDARD] If you legalize the FIS, would the "Platform for a political and peaceful solution to the Algerian crisis," which was developed by several Algerian parties in Rome in January, be acceptable? The government's initial main objection was that the FIS took part in the platform.

[Dembri] One must never forget that the government was the first to offer talks to the FIS and to ask it to participate in the democratic game. However, we cannot accept that the internal political debate is taken abroad. The agreement of Rome must become an agreement of Algiers.

[DER STANDARD] There is great concern in Europe about developments in Algeria. German Foreign Minister Kinkel has insisted on the observance of human rights. How does Algeria react?

[Dembri] We do not have any complex at all regarding human rights. All human rights organizations that want to have a look around Algeria are welcome. Amnesty International is supposed to come before the end of this month.

We in Algeria have gone very far in the observation of human rights. Since January an amnesty law for all those who carried out terrorist acts and now regret them has been in force. That applies particularly to those who did not carry out terrorist acts with casualties. Moreover, today all arrested terrorists are treated within normal jurisdiction, special courts do not exist any longer.

[DER STANDARD] It is very often claimed on an international level that many terrorist acts and other human rights violations in Algeria are committed by the security forces.

[Dembri] These are unfounded statements. Everything is transparent with us. Prove to us that there have been attacks.

[DER STANDARD] Let us come back to the economy and the IMF credit: Are you not worried that the strict conditions to which the credits of the fund are subject might aggravate the high unemployment rate, which is already extreme now, and thus further strengthen the Islamists?

[Dembri] We are aware that we have to prevent a deterioration of the social situation and to socially cushion the economic structural adjustment. We are making efforts to develop some kind of social pact with the enterprises and the trade unions. And we told the EU to especially support the Maghreb states now. Not only help, but joint development is at issue.

### Media Silent on Rally; FIS Prevented From Attending

*LD0906225495 Paris Radio France International in French 2130 GMT 9 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] There were two large demonstrations this Friday [9 June] in Algeria; one in support of the authorities, and the other in support of the opposition parties who have been calling for a negotiated solution since the Rome conference. Everything went calmly, under tight supervision. Amar Bensalem:

[Bensalem] Two demonstrations took place today in Mostaganem and Tlemcen, two demonstrations in support of President Zeroual and the organization of presidential elections, according to the state television this evening. The presenter of the television news made much of the presence of several thousand people in these two street demonstrations, without saying who organized them.

On the other hand the state radio and television passed over in silence the first popular gathering in Algiers backed by the opposition which signed the Rome national contract: 8-10,000 people responded to their call in the Harcha Omnisports hall, which was guarded by a large police contingent.

The crowd gave a large ovation to the leaders of the five parties who came to the rostrum one after the other. Those who spoke were Ali Yahya Abdennour, chairman of the Human Rights League; Abdelhamid Mehri, secretary general of the National Liberation Front; Mustapha Bouhadef, a leader of the Socialist Forces Front, Bensmail, secretary general of the MDA [Movement for Democracy in Algeria] party, Louisa Hanoun, spokeswoman for the Workers Party; Abdallah Djaballah, chairman of the Ennahda party, and Hamed Benmohamed, head of the Contemporary Muslim Youth party.

All the speakers told the audience that [Ali] Djeddi and [Abdelkader] Boukhamkham, co-leaders of the dissolved Islamic Salvation Front, had been forbidden to attend the rally by the authorities.

### FIS Supporters Chant Slogans

*LD0906202995 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 9 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Two large demonstrations were held in Algeria today. One was in support of the government and the other backed opposition parties, which have been calling for a negotiated solution to the country's civil strife since the Rome conference. Both were peaceful, and under tight police supervision. Ghislaine Dupont reports:

[Dupont] The first demonstration drew several thousand participants — between 8-10,000 according to journalists on the scene. Thousands of people came to support the first rally, organized by the signatories to last January's Rome accord between the legal opposition — chiefly the Socialist Forces Front, the National Liberation Front, and the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. It seems that there was no FIS representative in attendance at the first public gathering; any such appearance would have been prohibited by government authorities. There were, however, numerous supporters of the FIS among the crowd, and they took advantage of the situation to chant slogans such as, "The Front is doing fine!" and "Three years of violence is enough." These chants were echoed by others in the crowd with shouts of "Democracy!"

At the same time a second demonstration was taking place, the object of which was to denounce both terrorism and the Rome accord. APS reports that several tens of thousands took part in the demonstration, and that people also marched in a number of other cities [as heard], all with the aim of backing President Zeroual and the prospect of presidential elections before the end of the year. Demonstrators carried pictures of the president and banners condemning violence, acts of sabotage and the murder of innocent people.

No untoward incident has been reported from either of the rival demonstrations.

## Egypt

### Mubarak, Yasir 'Arafat Hold Talks in Cairo

*NC1206083295 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 12 Jun (MENA)— President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat held talks at the Presidential Palace this morning.

The talks were attended on the Egyptian side by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs. On the Palestinian side, the talks were attended by Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation with the Palestinian National Authority; Nabil Abu-Rudaynah, spokesman for the Palestinian president; and Zuhdi al-Qidrah, Palestine's ambassador in Cairo.

[In a related item, at 0758 GMT on 12 June MENA carried a short Cairo-datelined item reporting on 'Arafat's arrival in Cairo this morning.]

### Musa Sees Progress in Peace Talks

*NC1006165195 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1532 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Jun (MENA) — [passage omitted] Musa met today with the U.S., British, and French ambassadors in Cairo. Afterward he said the tripartite meeting held in Cairo yesterday between President Husni Mubarak, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher showed the importance of Egypt's stand. This stand, he noted, is to scrupulously follow up all tracks of the peace process, because it was Egypt that launched the original initiative to transform the situation in the Middle East from confrontation to peace.

Musa added that, from Egypt's perspective, peace is based on the principle of land for peace and agreement between the Arab parties and Israel; it also requires that no changes be made in the territories before negotiations are over, so that things will be absolutely clear.

He stressed the need for solutions to all the issues and problems existing between the concerned parties and the need to reconsider pan-Arab issues and to have serious negotiations on them, including the nuclear, security, and refugee issues.

Commenting on Egyptian-Israeli problems, the foreign minister said they will be the object of active contacts in the near future, and he noted that we cannot say in the short term that we have eliminated the problems or come up with solutions to them. He said these problems will be discussed and negotiated because any stable regional situation has to take into consideration various views, sources of concern, and ways to handle them, noting that this is the right way to begin dealing with such issues.

Musa emphasized the need to honor 1 July as the date set for implementing the second phase of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles. He added that everyone is awaiting this date to see what issues will be agreed upon.

He said we should give a chance to the Palestinian and Israeli sides to reach agreement on the Israeli forces' redeployment, and expressed his hope that the agreement will be implemented on time.

The foreign minister stressed that progress on the Palestinian track has a positive impact on the other tracks, noting that Egypt is holding continuous contacts with Syria and the Palestinians.

### Ambassador to Israel Views Rabin, Christopher Talks

*NC1006185195 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*1745 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Jun (MENA)—Egypt's Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni left Cairo for his post this evening after accompanying Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin during his latest visit to Egypt.

In a predeparture statement, Ambassador Basyuni said Rabin's and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's latest visit to Egypt testify to Egypt's prominent role in the peace process. He added that the visit also sought to clear the air in Egyptian-Israeli relations by discussing and resolving contentious issues quietly in the common interests and in the interest of security and stability in the Middle East.

He said Egypt is playing a principal, pivotal role in peace- making on all fronts, noting that Cairo was recently the scene of intense activity to advance the peace process.

Ambassador Basyuni expressed his hope that efforts will continue to achieve peace on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, adding that progress on any track will help progress on other tracks.

### Christopher's Mideast Tour Seen as 'Important'

*NC1006053095 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*2050 GMT 9 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 9 Jun (MENA)—AL-AHRAM and AL-JUMHURIYAH have stressed the importance of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's new Middle East tour on advancing the peace process.

AL-AHRAM says in an editorial in Saturday's [10 June] issue that the tour will reveal the facts of the U.S. approach to the Arab countries and the dimensions of the U.S. position on occupied East Jerusalem, especially in light of attempts by the U.S. Congress to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The paper says the tour will serve as one of the most important parts of forming a coherent Arab position, a position that will show the Americans that their continued bias toward Israel will help to undermine the remaining U.S. credibility in the Middle East, harm the peace process as begun through the Madrid formula, and pave the way for a change in the mediation structure in favor of other, more positive, more neutral international forces than the United States.

For its part, AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that Christopher's tour reflects determination to achieve peace and overcome the recent obstacles to the peace process.

The paper says that Cairo was the first to warn against the danger of hindering the peace process, as this would give extremism a chance to grow.

The paper says that this realistic thinking is one of the fruits given by the advocates of peace, who took this road and bet that it would ultimately be the right choice.

### Clinton's 'Shifting Positions' on Bosnia Issue Viewed

*NC1106072795 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*0605 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 11 Jun (MENA)— AL-AHRAM and AL-AKHBAR express disappointment over the chances of finding a comprehensive solution to the Bosnian problem because of the negative position the West and the United States are taking on the crisis.

The two newspapers point out that the general climate created by Serbia taking Western hostages and attacking the plane carrying the Bosnian foreign minister, who was killed with his companions in the incident, led the world to expect the West to take more serious action against the Serbs this time. But this has not happened.

In an editorial today, AL-AHRAM says that it was expected that the West would take more serious action vis-a-vis the Serbian acts, particularly since these countries act only when their interests are at stake. But nothing happened, AL-AHRAM says; adding that Washington insisted on maintaining the ban on arms exports to Bosnia in spite of the Congressional decision. NATO leaders sufficed themselves by repeating twisted, meaningless phrases. The situation has now reached a level that threatens general chaos due to the lack of fortitude of those concerned, AL-AHRAM says.

In a similar editorial, AL-AKHBAR expresses surprise at U.S. President Bill Clinton, who keeps shifting positions and changing statements. The paper asks why Clinton is fond of changing his positions and views, often without reasonable or clear reasons.

In this context, the paper refers to Clinton's repeated remark that America must lift the arms ban on Bosnia even if it has to do that unilaterally. The man suddenly reversed his position and stressed that this step requires the allies' approval.

AL-AKHBAR says that these positions were repeated even when many members of Congress called on Washington to allow Bosnia to import weapons. Clinton opposed this, the paper says.

### Press Syndicate Outlines Steps Against Amended Penal Code

*NC1006180895 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1502 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 10 Jun (MENA)—The Press Syndicate's General Assembly held an emergency meeting today to formulate a position on the recent Penal Code amendments pertaining to publication crimes. The four-hour meeting was attended by 2,500 journalists and was chaired by Press Syndicate President Ibrahim Nafi'.

A large number of journalists, representing all journalistic institutions, delivered speeches rejecting these amendments and demanding their repeal in order to safeguard freedom of the press and enable journalists to carry out their mission in the best way possible.

At the end of the meeting Ibrahim Nafi' announced the General Assembly's resolutions, which state that the Press Syndicate General Assembly, meeting in an extraordinary session, has unanimously rejected Law 93/1995, which provides for harsher penalties for publication-related crimes. The resolutions describe the law as further restricting freedom of the press and freedom of expression in Egypt. The General Assembly backed all the steps that the Press Syndicate Council has adopted in this regard. It called on all journalists to stand united behind their syndicate.

The Press Syndicate General Assembly decided to use all legal means to secure the repeal of Law 93/1995. In pursuance of this objective, it instructed the syndicate council to carry out the following tasks:

1. Prepare a legal syndicate memorandum that states the journalists' position on the new law and submit it to the president of the Republic.

2. Hold intensive contacts with the concerned authorities to deal with the new Penal Code amendments, as stated in the new law. The syndicate council will inform the General Assembly of the results of these contacts.

3. Appeal against Law 93/1995 on the grounds that it contravenes the Constitution.

4. Call for a general strike and urge newspapers not to publish on 24 June.

5. Resort to disciplinary action, as spelled out by the Press Syndicate's statute, against every journalist who disregards the resolutions adopted by the Press Syndicate General Assembly and Press Syndicate Council regarding Law 93/1995.

6. Discuss every serious complaint against journalists who disobey the journalist's code of honor in their professional conduct and take appropriate measures regarding these complaints.

7. Mobilize domestic, Arab, and international support for the Press Syndicate's stance on this law.

8. The Press Syndicate General Assembly will instruct the syndicate council to compile a black list of the individuals who helped pass Law 93/1995 and will refrain from publishing their names or photos in newspapers. The General Assembly also urges the national [government-owned] and partisan newspapers to publish the minutes of the General Assembly's emergency meeting and the Press Syndicate Council's announcements.

The Press Syndicate General Assembly also decided to consider itself in permanent open session as of today. The syndicate council will call on the General Assembly to meet on Saturday, 24 June, or at any time a meeting is deemed necessary.

The Press Syndicate General Assembly began its extraordinary meeting this morning with a reading of the syndicate's statement in which the president of the syndicate outlined the steps that the syndicate council had adopted to deal with the situation. He asserted that Egyptian journalists unanimously maintain that Law 93/

1995 places the freedom of opinion and expression and journalistic practice in all its forms at the mercy of imprecise texts and subjects them to heavy penalties that are not proportional to the magnitude or nature of the offense.

The statement points out that the Press Syndicate Council declares its backing for all journalists' efforts to abolish this law. The Council asserted that it is fully prepared to hold a dialogue on an equal footing with any individual who is concerned with enabling Egyptian journalism to do its duty in an ideal manner and removing all obstacles to this.

The Press Syndicate Council asserted that it is aware that in order to play this role it must observe journalistic principles, professional conduct, and the code of honor and do its job of protecting the noble values of earnest journalism free from slander and oneupmanship.

The Council pointed out that the attempt by some circles to disparage the honesty of journalists and incite public opinion against them on the pretext that they enjoy privileges not available to the general public will not succeed in improving the image of the new law. It noted that all impartial people agree that the new law is quite harmful to society's right to learn the facts and to listen to free views and enlightened opinions.

### Mubarak on Journalists' Opposition to Penal Code

*NC1106203595 Cairo MENA in Arabic*
*1925 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 11 Jun (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak underlined his strong support for freedom of the press. He said: I support this freedom to the utmost. I have repeatedly said that no pen will be broken, no newspaper will be confiscated, and no writer will be prevented from expressing his view or criticizing any entity, whether governmental or not, provided they avoid slander and libel and baseless attacks on honor and honesty.

President Mubarak added: I will uphold this principle because I want the values and principles we Egyptians are proud of to remain preeminent and because I am concerned about freedom of the press itself.

The president gave his statement to the weekly paper MAYU, organ of the ruling National Democratic Party, in response to the decisions taken by the Press Syndicate's General Assembly yesterday, Saturday.

In his statement to MAYU editor Samir Rajab, which will be published tomorrow, Monday, President said: On the other hand, I reject pressure, because I will not let some people push us into measures or ways that harm this freedom. Therefore I tell these people: No, no, no. Never push us into such a thing; we will always support freedom of expression. I am a very avid supporter of the guarantees that bolster this freedom.

President Mubarak added: Had we been against the press or had our intentions been bad, then we would have taken measures against what is happening now. But we are overlooking this behavior because we support the press and appreciate its noble mission and the positive and constructive role played by honest journalists. I would like to ask those who are shedding tears now — though toughening the penalties will affect only those who violate the law by harming people without offering proof— where were they in the past? Where were they when the papers could not print a single word of criticism against an official, even constructive criticism in the public interest? Why are they shedding tears now, when we have not touched the freedom of the press and will not do so?

The president said: I stress that I have supported, still support, and will continue to support constructive criticism regardless of what happens. No journalist will be harmed because of positive and constructive criticism, regardless of how sharp it is, because freedom of the press is a principle to which we are committed and from which we will not deviate or retreat from. The whole issue is that we are against slander, libel, and attempts to incitement and rabble rousing without proof or evidence.

President Mubarak went on to say: Had the Press Syndicate's Higher Council taken measures in the past or had the Press Syndicate applied the journalist's charter of honor in regard to those who overstepped the law, the government would not have thought of making the amendments, which we have adopted in order to deal with such people, not anyone else.

President Mubarak compared these amendments and the resultant penalties with similar ones in democratic countries. He said: Once again, I hope that the stipulations in the laws of France, Germany, and Britain will be read so that we will see that the penalties stipulated in the new amendments are much more lenient than in those countries' laws.

## Sudan

### Al-Bashir, Delegation Depart for Talks in Malawi

*EA1006153795 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic*
*1055 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Khartoum, 10 June (SUNA) — President Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir has left for Malawi at the head of a delegation that includes Brigadier 'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn, minister of state at the Presidency of the Republic [words indistinct] and 'Umar Baridu, first undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry, to hold discussions with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni within the context of the mediation being carried out by Malawian President Bakili Muluzi. [passage omitted]

## Reportage on President al-Bashir's Visit to Africa

*WA1106115395*

For African reportage on the visit by President 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir to Malawi, please see the Southern Africa section of the 11 June Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

## GCC Ministerial Council Meets on Regional Issues

### Iraq Urged To Respond to Resolutions

*LD1006140695 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Riyadh, 10 Jun (KUNA) — The GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] ministerial council has asked Iraq anew today to respond to all UN resolutions related to its aggression on the State of Kuwait, especially the resolutions concerning the release of Kuwaiti and other prisoners. The ministerial council reaffirmed anew the necessity of preserving Iraq's territorial integrity.

Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak Al Khalifah, chairman of the current session, in a speech he delivered at the opening of the 55th session said "there was still hope that Iran would respond to the efforts and repeated endeavors being made by the UAE [United Arab Emirates] to solve the issue of its three islands."

With regard to the Middle East peace process, Shaykh Mubarak welcomed the framework of security arrangements relating to the Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian Golan Heights reached between Syria and Israel. [passage omitted]

With regard to the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Bahraini foreign minister expressed the council's condemnation of the latest escalation by the Serb aggressors. He said: "This exposes the international inability to face the aggressors, whose acts have gone beyond the limits of ethnic cleansing and occupation of territories so as to achieve their ambitions to set up the greater Serbia."

He stressed the council's call for convening a special session of the UN General Assembly so as to discuss the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina in implementation of the resolutions of the latest Islamic summit conference, which was held in Casablanca in December 1994. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Muhammad called for overcoming the obstacles that impede the cooperation process with the international economic blocks, particularly the EU. [passage omitted]

Regarding the UAE's three islands — Greater and Lesser Tunbs and Abu Musa — the Bahraini foreign minister praised the serious peaceful initiative of UAE President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan to solve the problem proceeding from the starting point of good neighborliness to bolster and strengthen security in the region. With regard to the Middle East peace process, Shaykh Muhammad expressed the council's hope that the security arrangements regarding the Syrian Golan Heights will enable Syria to regain all its occupied territories and the two sides to reach a final agreement. In this regard he stressed that peace would not be achieved unless Israel finally abandoned the policy of procrastination and annexation of land it uses to obstruct peace efforts. [passage omitted]

Regarding the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina Shaykh Muhammad referred to the fact that the Serbs were violating international laws and have detained members of the UN peacekeeping force and shelled peaceful areas; they have rejected peace. All these practices are regarded as being a flagrant defiance of the international community and a violation of the UN resolutions. He called on the international community to compel the Serbs to submit to the international will and implement UN resolutions and accept the peace plan which has been accepted by all the other sides to the conflict. He called on the international community to lift the ban on the import of weapons by Bosnia to enable it to defend itself and defend its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

The Bahraini foreign minister pointed out the extraordinary meeting of the GCC interior ministers held in Bahrain last April and said: "The meeting proved the readiness of the GCC states to stand up and face the threats and dangers that target its security, stability, and prosperity."

He praised the positive results of the second meeting of the Higher Military Committee held in Riyadh last April so as to follow up the implementation of resolutions on joint defense and military cooperation of the GCC states.

Shaykh Muhammad welcomed Major General Falih al Shatti, assistant secretary general for military affairs, and congratulated him on his new post and wished him success in his duties.

The ministers started their closed meeting after the opening speech by Shaykh Muhammad. [passage omitted]

### Iran-Iraq Rapport Closely Monitored

*LD1006221295 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2056 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Riyadh, 10 Jun (KUNA) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak al-Khalifah, has stressed that the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member countries are following up closely the rapprochement between Iraq and Iran.

The Bahraini foreign minister added, in a statement to the press after the second meeting of the GCC Ministerial Council that ended here this evening, that the final declaration of the ministerial meeting, due to be issued tomorrow, will, in particular, deal in a comprehensive manner with this issue.

An Iranian delegation visited Baghdad last month; rumors have it that an Iraqi delegation might pay a visit to Tehran this week. A similar visit was postponed last week, however.

Shaykh Muhammad, who is chairing the ministerial meeting as his country is the current GCC chair, indicated that today's meeting was an opportunity to exchange briefings on developments in the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, on the one hand, and between Iran and the UAE [United Arab Emirates], on the other.

The Bahraini foreign minister announced that the postponed meeting of the GCC ministers of foreign affairs, finance, and petroleum will be held next month before the anticipated meeting between the GCC foreign ministers and their EU counterparts in Brussels to examine joint economic cooperation.

Shaykh Muhammad pointed out that the tripartite meeting of the GCC [foreign, finance, and petroleum ministers] was postponed because of the postponement of the meeting between the GCC foreign ministers and their European counterparts, which was due to take place last month.

The Bahraini foreign minister pointed out that the joint Gulf Cooperation Council tripartite ministerial meeting will work on coordinating stances and reaching a common perception regarding the issues that will be discussed at the Brussels meeting with European ministers.

He stressed the importance of the Brussels meeting, which will discuss the bases of relations and cooperation between the GCC and the EU states.

Attempts will also be made at the meeting to settle differences between them over trade issues; this was in a reference to the carbon and energy taxes that the European states plan to impose on imported Gulf oil and petrochemicals.

In this context, Shaykh Muhammad stressed that the GCC states attached vital importance to their economic relations with world economic groups and blocs, led by the EU, the United States, and Japan.

He added: We will work toward strengthening and developing cooperation with these blocs in a way that will serve the interests of both sides.

Regarding military cooperation among the GCC states, which was discussed at today's two sessions, Shaykh Muhammad said that the ministers had reviewed the result of the Higher Military Committee's meetings that were held here last April.

The foreign minister of Bahrain pointed out that the committee debated a number of (?issues) concerning strengthening military and defense cooperation, and foremost strengthening the Peninsula forces shield and the coordination between member states in these fields. He described this trend as good steps.

He added that the ministers also debated the results of the extraordinary meetings of the GCC interior ministers that was held in April in Bahrain, and at which the question of strengthening security cooperation was raised. He praised the constructive steps that were taken in this connection.

Regarding political subjects discussed by the ministers today, the Bahraini foreign minister said that they carried out a comprehensive study of the peace process in the Middle East.

He stressed that the GCC states support the Middle East peace process and they have been working for establishing a comprehensive and just peace in the region. He said that the GCC council was keen on supporting the self-rule regions.

Shaykh Muhammad announced that the final session of the GCC foreign ministers will be held tomorrow morning and will be followed by the final communique that will give a comprehensive view of all the issues raised.

### Bahraini Minister Views Session

*LD1106194795 Riyadh SPA in Arabic*
*1827 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Riyadh, 11 Jun (SPA) — Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak al-Khalifah, his excellency the foreign minister of the State of Bahrain, held a news conference at the end of the 55th session of the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] Ministerial Council. Replying to a question on why the press communique had not mentioned internal matters such as border disputes between GCC member states — for example, the dispute between Bahrain and Qatar — he said: "Undoubtedly, the current developments in the region and the strong trend prevailing in the Arabian peninsula at the moment — be it the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Yemen and the successful visit of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Saudi Arabia to boost this process and end the border dispute and demarcate the borders once and for all, or the agreement between the Sultanate of Oman and Yemen — is an indication that we are moving toward a solution of the disputes in a fraternal spirit and an end to all outstanding issues of concern to the citizens in the region."

Al-Khalifah added that "the decision made by Bahrain is clear, and it provides for the doubling of efforts in the coming period, prior to the 16th session of the Supreme Council [GCC summit in December], in order to resolve the outstanding issues between member states through official and bilateral channels and within the framework of the council in the fraternal spirit that characterizes relations between the members of the council. The decision is clear, and the trend is clear. We are optimistic about this process." [passage omitted]

Replying to a question on the date of the meeting of the GCC ministers of finance, oil, and foreign affairs, the Bahraini foreign minister said: "We will make contacts now to hold this meeting in early July. We also hope that the meeting between the GCC and the European Community will be held on 18 July. Contacts are under way in this respect." [passage omitted]

Replying to a question on recent developments in relations between Iraq and Iran, the Bahraini foreign minister said: "We in the GCC are monitoring all developments in the region. It is important that we all exchange our views on this subject, but what takes place between Iraq and Iran concerns only them. I have no comment on this."

### Council Issues Press Release

*LD1106205295 Riyadh SPA in Arabic*
*1725 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Riyad, 11 Jun (SPA) — The proceedings of the 55th session of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] ended at the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh this afternoon.

At the beginning of the final session GCC Secretary General Shaykh Fahim Bin Sultan al-Qasimi read the 55th session's press release. Following is the text:

The GCC Ministerial Council held its 55th ordinary session at the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh on 10 and 11 June. The meetings were chaired by His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister; and in the presence of UAE Foreign Minister Rashid Abdullah al-Nu'aymi; His Royal Highness Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal; Mr. Haytham Bin Tariq Al Sa'id, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry of the Sultanate of Oman; Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim Bin-Jabr Al Thani, minister of foreign affairs of the State of Qatar; and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir Al Sabah, second deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the State of Kuwait.

The council takes the opportunity of the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the start of the blessed march of the GCC toward achieving the noble aims, drawn up by the GCC Higher Council to meet the aspirations of the sons of the GCC member states for security, stability, development, and prosperity; and to convey its sincere wishes to their majesties and highnesses, the leaders of the GCC as well as their peoples.

The council praises the fraternal meeting between the servant of the two Holy Places King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and His Excellency President 'Ali Salih 'Abdallah, president of the Yemeni Republic; and welcomes the outcome of such a meeting which benefits the two fraternal and neighboring countries, and benefits the rest of the region's countries and contributes to bolstering security, stability, and peace in the Arab Peninsula and the Gulf region.

The Ministerial Council seizes this opportunity to congratulate the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Yemen on the completion of their border demarcation, an accomplishment which represents a significant and positive step that will serve security and stability in the region. The council also expresses its wishes of success to both countries in all of their efforts that will bring benefits to both fraternal peoples.

The council examined the course of Iraq's implementation of the Security Council's resolutions related to its aggression against the State of Kuwait and observed that Iraq has not yet fulfilled some fundamental aspects of its international commitments according to Resolution 687 and other relevant resolutions, particularly those concerning the release of the POW's and detainees from Kuwait and other nationalities, the return of all properties, and the abidance by the reparations mechanism.

The Ministerial Council stresses the need for Iraq to implement fully the Security Council's resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait and to refrain from any aggressive or provocative action in compliance with Resolution 949, expressing, in this context, its full appreciations for the stances and efforts of the members states of the Security Council aimed at the implementation of all relevant international legitimacy resolutions. The council also expresses its satisfaction with the adoption by the Security Council of Resolution 986 which tackles the provision of humanitarian aid to the Iraqi people.

The council expresses its deep regret for the Iraqi Government's refusal to implement Resolution 986 and to make use of its provisions, which provide for temporary measures to prevent a further deterioration of humanitarian conditions of the Iraqi people and to alleviate its suffering. The responsibility for this suffering falls squarely upon the Iraqi Government for its earlier rejection of Resolutions 706 and 712 of 1991 and then Resolution 986 of 1995. The council reaffirms its full sympathy with the fraternal Iraqi people in its current predicament. It also affirms anew its keen interest in Iraq's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

The Ministerial Council also studied the new developments in the relations between the GCC states and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the issue of its occupation of the UAE's three islands: Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa and expressed great regret for not responding to the UAE's repeated serious and true calls to achieve a peaceful solution to this issue. The council also expressed concern over the continued Iranian Government's measures aimed at consecrating its occupation of the three islands, which constitutes a violation of the sovereignty of the UAE and contravenes the principles of international law, the Charter of the Islamic Conference, principles of good neighborliness, and respect for the sovereignty and integrity of the countries in the region.

The council reaffirms its firm position in supporting the UAE and underlines its sovereignty over its islands: Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa. The council also reaffirms full support for all of the peaceful measures and means the UAE has taken to restore its sovereignty over the three islands and calls on Iran to agree to refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice.

The council also discussed the developments of the peace process in the Middle East since the Madrid conference in 1991, which established the foundations for realising peace and ensuring a just solution by implementing UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, and 425 and the land-for-peace principle.

The council reviewed the steps achieved by the peace process to attain a durable, comprehensive, and just peace in the region aimed at realizing a complete Israeli withdrawal from holy Jerusalem and all occupied Arab lands and recovering the Palestinian legitimate rights, including the establishment of its independent state on its national soil.

In this respect, the council reiterates its grave concern over Israel's continued policy to confiscate Palestinian lands and to build settlements in the Arab occupied territories in violation of the clauses of the Geneva Fourth Convention and in violation of the letter and the spirit of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles, hence jeopardizing the peace process in the Middle East. The Ministerial Council urges the international community and the cosponsors of the peace process to take all appropriate measures to prevent Israel from introducing geographical and human changes in holy Jerusalem, within its recognized boundaries before 4 June 1967, and to secure Israel's compliance with international resolutions on holy Jerusalem, in particular Resolution 252.

The council followed with satisfaction the recent positive signs in the bilateral negotiations between Syria and Israel. The council looks forward to substantial progress in the negotiations, which might end the Israeli occupation of the Syrian Arab Golan. The council also looks forward to progress in the Lebanese-Israeli process, which might end the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

While the council reiterates its concern over the existence of nuclear programs outside tighter and effective international control, it nevertheless welcomes the resolution of the conference on the extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty on the need to make the Middle East a zone free from nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction and urges Israel and the rest of concerned countries in the region to open its nuclear installations to international inspection.

The council followed with great interest and grave concern the continued dangerous slide of the situation in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in view of the Serbs' continued escalation of acts of aggression, the shelling of civilians and the safe haven zones in various parts of the republic, the continued odious policies of ethnic cleansing, and the seizure of UN personnel in order to use them as hostages and human shield in defiance of the world community and in violation of the international resolutions.

While the council reiterates its indignation over and sadness at the murder of Mr. Irfan Ljubijankic and his comrades at the criminal hands of the Serbian militias, it strongly condemns such an odious crime by the Serbian militias and other outrages against humanity in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as the Serbs' contempt of UN and international resolutions, hence jeopardizing the security of the whole Balkan region.

The council urges the Security Council to take urgent and firmer measures in order to deal with the Serbian forces of aggression, forcing them to stop their practices against the Bosnian inhabitants and UN personnel; to accept the international peace plan and respect international resolutions; to allow the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina to exercise its legitimate right to self-defense in accordance with Chapter 51 of the UN Charter; to provide effective protection for the safe haven zones; and make mutual and reciprocal recognition of all the states which emerged from the former Yugoslavia a prior condition for the lifting of the sanctions.

The council reiterates its full support for the resolutions of the foreign ministers of the Contact Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, issued on 18 May, which called for the convening of an emergency meeting of the UN General Assembly to examine the situation in the Balkan region, and calls upon the international community to provide the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina with the necessary material aid to help it surmount its current difficulties.

The council reiterates its concern over the continued bloodletting in Afghanistan and urges all Afghan factions to respect the cease-fire agreement and implement the Mecca Accord in order to bring about peace and national reconciliation in Afghanistan.

The council also reiterates its grave concern over the spilling of blood in Chechnya and the killing of more civilians; it renews its call for the belligerent sides to quickly find a solution to their dispute through talks and negotiations.

Concerning the economic side, the Ministerial Council was briefed on the minutes of the 38th meeting of the GCC Committee for Financial and Economic Cooperation, which was held at the Secretariat General on 28 March. The council blessed the steps agreed upon by the committee on the ways to implement the resolutions, which were taken by the GCC Higher Council at its 15th session, on the development of economic cooperation within the framework of the implementation of the unitary economic agreement.

Issued in Riyadh on 11 June

## Kuwait

### Minister on Arab Ties, Iraq, Middle East Market

*JN0906130195 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 6 Jun 95 p 19*

[Report by 'Ubayd Sultan in Kuwait]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, first deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Kuwait, has emphasized his pride in the role played by His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the state, in support of Kuwaiti rights.

He said the Kuwaiti people strongly respected and appreciated his highness' position during the crisis [of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait] and expressed pride in the United Arab Emirates' press and its role during the Kuwaiti crisis.

In an interview with the chief editors of the Emirates newspapers, the Kuwaiti foreign minister welcomed the return of the Iraqi people to the Arab fold and said his country has not tried to prevent the lifting of the siege on Baghdad. [passage omitted]

The Kuwaiti first deputy prime minister stressed that his country has never obstructed the lifting of the siege on Iraq because this subject is related to the Security Council resolutions, and said: We look forward to the return of the Iraqi people to the Arab fold, but the repeated Iraqi positions do not allow this.

On the recent statements by Iraqi officials that Kuwait obstructs the resolution of the prisoner issue, his excellency said: We have never obstructed the release of the prisoners, and we seek the help of the Arab League and the International Committee of the Red Cross to resolve this subject, but Iraq does not want a solution. He said evidence of this is that whenever a decision is made to inspect any of Iraq's prisons, Iraq will not allow a surprise inspection and demands to be informed three days before the inspection. [passage omitted]

On the Gulf Cooperation Council's position on the idea of a Middle East market, Shaykh Sabah said: Hostility to Israel has been ongoing since 1946 and we have been against Israel, and our relations with the Arab cause cannot be relinquished, but I say frankly that some Arab countries have signed agreements with Israel and normalized relations with it. Because those concerned reached such agreements, we do not oppose taking part in the Middle East market within an Arab framework, led by the Arab League and when the Arab League approves this in a joint Arab decision. He added that the Arab world will remain hostage to Israel because it is unable to enter the industrial field. He added: This is a serious threat to us as Arabs, and we must meet to confront such threats.

Answering a question on Yemeni-Kuwaiti relations, the Kuwaiti foreign minister said: Kuwait does not want an apology from anyone but wants the countries that supported Iraq during the invasion to ask Iraq to implement Security Council resolutions and return the prisoners. After that, relations will be stronger and more solid. These countries should understand Kuwait's position more accurately. He added that Kuwait restored relations with the Arab Maghreb states and does not oppose resuming relations with Yemen and Jordan.

## Oman

### Pakistani Information Minister Arrives on Visit

*JN0906171495 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] His Excellency Khalid Ahmad Khan, Pakistani minister of information and broadcasting, and his accompanying delegation arrived at noon today on an official two-day visit to the Sultanate.

They were welcomed by His Excellency 'Abd-al-'Aziz Bin-Muhammad al-Rawwas, minister of information; His Excellency Hamad Bin-Muhammad al-Rashidi, Information Ministry under secretary for media affairs; his excellency the Pakistani ambassador accredited to the Sultanate; and a number of Information Ministry officials.

In an arrival statement to the Omani News Agency, his excellency the Pakistani information and broadcasting minister lauded the wise policy of His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id. He said that both his majesty the sultan and his wise policy are appreciated and respected by the Pakistani people.

He also praised relations between the Sultanate and Pakistan, describing them as excellent. During his visit to the Sultanate, he will sign a bilateral media cooperation protocol with His Excellency 'Abd-al-'Aziz Bin-Muhammad al-Rawwas, he added.

The Pakistani minister pointed out that this protocol will open a wider scope for bilateral cooperation in the information field.

### Delivers Benazir Message to Qabus

*JN1006182695 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id, may God protect him, has received a written message from Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Fahd Bin-Mahmud Al Sa'id, deputy prime minister for cabinet affairs, received the message for his majesty the sultan when he received at his office today Khalid Ahmad Khan Kharal, Pakistani minister of information and broadcasting, who relayed the Pakistani prime minister's greetings and best wishes to his majesty the sultan and his wise government. The Pakistani minister added that Pakistani officials appreciate the modern Omani renaissance, as well as the sweeping and multifaceted development the country enjoys thanks to the enlightened leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id and the wise policies he has pursued.

Fahd Bin-Mahmud Al Sa'id asked the guest minister to relay his majesty the sultan's greetings and best wishes to the Pakistani president, the Pakistani prime minister, the Pakistani Government, and the friendly Pakistani people.

The deputy prime minister and the guest minister discussed the friendly bilateral ties and the means of promoting bilateral cooperation. Moreover, they reviewed several regional and international developments and issues of common interest.

The meeting was attended by Information Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz Bin-Muhammad al-Rawwas and Pakistani Ambassador to the Sultanate Hayat Khan.

## Refugees: More Than 170 Dead in al-Ramadi Clashes

*NC1106172895 Paris AFP in English 1635 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[By Randa Habib]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman, June 11 (AFP) — More than 170 people have died in clashes between Iraqi security forces and tribesmen in al-Ramadi in the worst violence to rock Iraq since the Gulf War, residents who fled the city said Sunday [11 June].

The residents of the western Iraqi city and capital of al-Anbar province who crossed the border into Jordan reported frequent street battles and automatic weapons fire in al-Ramadi since rioting broke out on May 18.

The fighting between security forces and residents, notably members of the al-Dulaymi tribe usually loyal to President Saddam Husayn, has killed about 100 members of the tribe and 50 members of the security forces, they said.

Among the dead was the al-Anbar governor and about a dozen members of the Mukhabarat, the state intelligence service, they told AFP, adding that about 800 people had been arrested and their families left without their news.

The trouble erupted after the tortured body of one of the tribe's leaders, General Muhammad Mazlum al-Dulaymi, was returned to the city after he was executed for his role in a coup attempt last year, witnesses said.

They said the Air Force general's body was brought home on May 17 and the trouble began as the mullahs began calling the faithful to his funeral the following day.

Witnesses gave accounts of how Saddam's youngest son, Qusayy Husayn, personally executed the head of security in al-Anbar in public after he refused to fire on the rioters.

The governor of al-Anbar, 'Amir Bandar al-Sa'dun, was killed by Colonel Muhammad Mazlum, commander of the al-Ramadi region, who is now in flight, they said.

Refugees fleeing the area said the brother of the executed Air Force general had fled Iraq and arrived in Riyadh on Friday.

One witness said Lieutenant Ahmad Mazlum Husayn had been in danger since the funeral of his brother, who was arrested in November 1994 and accused of plotting a coup.

"He succeeded in getting away and hid in Jordan, from where he took a plane to Saudi Arabia on Friday," the witness added.

The unrest in the city, which lies on the road to Amman in a province known as the "white governorate" because of its previous loyalty to the president, has transformed the area into hostile territory for Saddam.

About 1.2 million people live in the province, which stretches to the borders with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

## Attack on Saddam's Palace Detailed

*JN1106155195 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 8 Jun 95 pp 1, 23*

[Exclusive report to AL-JAZIRAH from Iraqi Kurdistan by Karim 'Abdallah, and another exclusive report to AL-JAZIRAH from Vienna and Bavaria]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Saddam regime is experiencing constant fear. Saddam is accustomed to imminent danger; anticipation has become an indispensable part of his daily life. He feels extreme fear during daylight, and his fear is aggravated at night. The Baghdad ruler is not confident despite the many dismissals of senior officials he has ordered. The regime is now on the defensive in many Iraqi cities that have been the scene of popular uprisings, such as Samarra', al-Fallujah, and al-Ramadi. Recently, a new armed organization representing the al-Dulaym tribes has come into being.

News reports from the city of al-Ramadi claim that an armed group from the city attacked Saddam's palace in al-Ramadi, which is located near the city's bridge, early this week. The armed group managed to break into the palace, destroy its contents, and kill the commander of the military force assigned to protect it. The group also managed to wound several military personnel who sought the assistance of troops staying in the city's barracks. The troops staying in the city's barracks rushed to the palace and apprehended five members of the armed group, which believed that Saddam Husayn was in the palace when it began its attack.

It is recalled that pamphlets carrying the signature of a new armed group calling itself "the Armed al-Dulaym Tribes Sons Movement" [harakat abna' 'asha'ir al-dulaym al-musallah] have recently been distributed in the capital city of Baghdad and other Iraqi cities, such as Mosul, Samarra', al-Fallujah, and al-Ramadi. This group threatened to mete out just punishment against the ruling gang because of crimes it has committed against the Iraqi people. [passage omitted]

### Paper Sees Power Struggles, Feuds Increasing

*JN0906195495 Paris AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic 9 Jun 95 pp 22-24*

[Report by Sa'id al-Qaysi in Paris]

[FBIS Translated Text] Stripping Tariq 'Aziz of responsibility for the sanctions file, the al-Anbar uprising, the dismissal of Watban al-Tikriti [former minister of interior], the group and individual executions, the security lawlessness, and the deteriorating economic conditions — all this has been witnessed in Iraqi cities over the past few weeks. It has happened against the backdrop of a fierce power struggle within the ruling family and has prompted observers to raise serious and anxious questions about what is taking place in Baghdad. These observers believe that what is taking place in Baghdad contains very serious signals, the most serious of which was conveyed by the al-Anbar uprising and showed that the regime could lose its last trump card — the loyalty of pro-government tribes and that of the Sunnis, whose rebellion against the regime came years after the uprisings led by Kurds and Shiites. Exactly what is taking place within the Iraqi regime? Could Saddam Husayn embark on a new adventure to address the challenges of the current phase?

Saddam Husayn has changed. This is the impression with which people who have recently met him came out. As a matter of fact, very few figures meet Saddam. Some of those who meet him are neither politicians nor senior officials.

It has been reported that the Iraqi president has recently begun to show a greater inclination for meetings with representative social figures. One of these figures has said that Saddam Husayn has been found to be "absent-minded and unfocused." He tends to keep silent as if he were a mystic. He is inclined to engage in general intellectual and religious discussions. He seems to have broken with old habits. He refuses to make statements to the press, contending that the circumstances are critical, and that all utterances have to be carefully weighed and calculated.

The latest story says that Saddam has, over the past few months, ordered that four hours of the television's daily transmission be devoted to religious programming. He has even made religious lessons and training a must for senior officials. These lessons include all religions. The Iraqi president holds debate sessions with these "officials" to discuss with them religious issues that he himself assigns so that he may be able to express his views strongly as if he were a "jurisconsult" [faqih]. Some have even expected Saddam to publish a book "explaining his religious and worldly views."

However, this mysticism does not mean that Saddam Husayn has begun to shun government and public office, or that he has begun to allow things to be managed and controlled by members of his family or the closest of aides. On the contrary, he is still anxious to learn of the most minute details of all developments. He still reads the reports sent to him on the moves and efforts made by all officials and institutions. He has continued to exercise totalitarian and despotic rule, as increasingly manifested in his constant dismissal and removal of senior officers and politicians — something that happens almost every two months.

Given the rise in rampant corruption and the emergence of parallel authorities who control most sectors of the economy — and in which the major manipulators are military personnel and Saddam's relatives, particularly his son 'Udayy, the Iraqi president has recently enforced a moratorium on all construction licenses. He is now the only one who can grant such licenses. He is granting these licenses as he used to grant senior posts and funds to loyalists to avert betrayal. This development is of great significance, particularly since the Ba'th Party has disintegrated, not to mention the fact that the president no longer trusts the capabilities of his intelligence services. Bribes have neutralized these intelligence services, fractured their loyalties, and undermined their effectiveness.

A prominent Baghdad social figure, who met with AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI a few days ago, summed up the situation in Iraq by saying: In the past, the authorities used terrorism, intimidation, and money to stay in power. Now, with the depletion of their financial resources, they have nothing left but terrorism and intimidation. People have sold all their belongings. They have no choices left but to leave the country; this applies to the higher educated strata of the population as well as military commanders.

A large number of military personnel, including officers, have deserted the army due to the economic crisis. There is also a general feeling among many people that Saddam may, at any moment, embark on a new adventure. Consequently, everyone is afraid that they may be revisited by war. Moreover, military personnel, Ba'thist partisans, and senior officials in southern Iraq are afraid of being assassinated. By night, these areas are under the control of armed groups whom the regime identifies as Iranians. During daylight, regular troops reimpose their control of the cities in these areas.

Armed groups have sprouted up as a result of the economic crisis. AL-JUMHURIYAH Chief Editor Salah al-Mukhtar admits that the crisis is stifling all sectors of the population. The rate of exchange for the dollar has reached 1,500 dinars while average salaries do not exceed 3,000 dinars a month. An Army major's salary does not exceed 5,000 dinars, and prices continue to rise. This is especially true when a commodity becomes scarce or if rumors hit the streets that the state, as a result of the embargo, will not be able, for example, to secure copybooks. Prices skyrocket immediately. Salah al-Mukhtar adds that poultry and fish farms have suspended work for lack of feed. As for meat, it disappears when sheep and cattle are smuggled to neighboring countries where they are paid for in dollars, a lifeline to which every Iraqi seeks to cling.

Al-Mukhtar says that this state of affairs has led to complete disorder and that, under such an atmosphere, it has become easy to bribe people to carry out sabotage operations. He refers to the recent operation against two Mojahedin-e Khalq leaders, affirming that such operations in the center of Baghdad are no longer far-fetched in view of the bribes and corruption prevailing within the security forces and the intelligence bodies as a result of the stifling economic crisis.

In spite of the stiff laws, particularly those which came into force last June and under which hand amputations, which are done in accordance with Islamic law, are shown live on television, lawlessness has become more wide-spread and the number of army deserters has also increased as conscripts from the middle class who do not wish to join the military service can no longer pay the $2,500 needed to get out of doing military service. Salah al-Mukhtar sets the number of those with higher academic degrees who fled the country at 40,000, including 6,000 physicians.

Salah al-Mukhtar adds that people are starving and that their only worry is to secure basic commodities. Things are different for the upper classes, particularly senior officers who feel that the command has isolated itself in its ivory tower and who believe that there is no hope of ending the embargo. Thus, groupings based on the family, the clan, or the tribe, have started to be formed. This became apparent in the coup led by Staff Major General Muhammad Mazlum al-Dulaymi, the commander of al-Bakr airbase in Karkuk, who is from al-Dulaym tribe, and who was arrested along with 60 other officers and officials in al-Anbar Governorate; something which led to angry demonstrations.

Iraqi sources confirm that there is a direct connection between the dismissal of Interior Minister Watban al-Hasan, Saddam's half brother, and the al-Anbar incidents. These incidents triggered an acute disagreement between Watban and Saddam's son 'Udayy. 'Udayy accused his uncle Watban of not being able to contain the situation. These incidents could have been the excuse needed to revive old disagreements between Watban and 'Udayy on security and financial issues. Some say their disagreement revolves around how to divide the profits from the oil deals through the Kurdish areas. These operations are organized by the security bodies which are under 'Udayy's control and with which he competes with the security bodies belonging to the interior ministry. These deals consist of selling oil to Turkey through the Kurdish areas, which are under the control of Jalal Talabani — who also gets one-third of these deals.

However, according to a French official who recently visited Baghdad, the reshuffling of cards inside the authority reflects a struggle within the ruling family. According to the French official, the Iraqi authority is worried about the repercussions of the deteriorating economic situation, "as there is nothing left to distribute among leaders to guarantee their loyalty and confidence." The official adds that until the past six months, the Iraqi authority used to live on funds, estimated at $12 billion, as well as on a storage of basic supplies worth $16 billion and medicines worth $4 billion. But now, the authority is compelled to live on about $700 million earned from the oil smuggled to Iran and Turkey.

Western sources indicate that the [illegible]rent struggle in Baghdad is between two wings. The first wing wants an end to the crisis as soon as possible. It supports new concessions to the UN Security Council and positive dealings with Rolf Ekeus, head of UN commission inspecting and monitoring armament programs. The other wing, adopting a hard-line policy, is taking advantage of the current state of affairs. While the conflict between Watban and 'Udayy evidently involves financial affairs, the recent conflict between 'Udayy and Husayn Kamil al-Majid, Saddam's son-in-law, on the one hand and Tariq 'Aziz on the other eventually led to the prevailing of the hard-liners and "neutralizing" Tariq 'Aziz, from whom the file of negotiations with the United Nations was withdrawn in favor of Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf.

French quarters believe that the removal of Tariq 'Aziz from this role has upset French officials, who considered it a slap to the coordination that existed for a while between 'Aziz and the then French foreign minister, Prime Minister Alain Juppe. The exclusion is one of the reasons for the recent French stands, as shown in French officials' refusal to meet the Iraqi delegation which visited France under Salah al-Mukhtar to take part in the seminar on the prospects of cooperation between France and Iraq. The seminar was organized by Ahamd Shakir, head of the committee for developing Arab-French relations. French information indicates that Tariq 'Aziz was excluded from the file of negotiations on the international embargo in a session in which 'Udayy and Tariq 'Aziz exchanged harsh accusations. For his part, 'Aziz accused 'Udayy and Husayn Kamil of thwarting all attempts to lift the embargo, saying that they were at the forefront of those who have contributed toward that end since October 1993, when Iraq assembled its troops on the Kuwaiti border, in an attempt to undermine the negotiations with the UN Security Council. For his part, 'Udayy returned to his old story, accusing 'Aziz of establishing suspicious relations with U.S. quarters on the pretext of establishing a "U.S. lobby" to defend Iraq's interests. 'Udayy disclosed previous reports charging Nizar Hamdun, the Iraqi ambassador to United Nations, of having "U.S. inclinations." In that session, 'Udayy said that all the information provided by 'Aziz was incorrect, that the United States will not lift the embargo, and that France gave in to U.S. pressures. He said it was useless to reactivate the Iraqi lobby in France, and that the lobby should be rebuilt and 'Aziz be excluded from the file.

'Udayy also charged his uncle, Barzan al-Tikriti, Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, of "colluding with 'Aziz." In this regard, it should be recalled that Barzan al-Tikriti supported 'Aziz's criticism of the Iraqi buildup on the Kuwaiti border in October 1993. Moreover, Barzan, whose basic job was to organize foreign intelligence and trade relations, told the Swiss newspaper LA TRIBUNE DE GENEVE that the "occupation of Kuwait was a mistake."

Differences between 'Aziz and 'Udayy were triggered by Security Council discussions on an Argentine resolution allowing Iraq to export oil worth $2 billion within a six-month period. While 'Aziz was trying in New York to improve the terms of the deal, particularly the exporting of two thirds of the quantity of oil in the Gulf rather than across Turkey, France suddenly changed its position after it was trying to amend the resolution in favor of Iraq. Afterward, reports said that the French officials changed their position when they received information that Baghdad had threatened two French oil companies, Total and Elf, that it would not make any deal with them unless they signed a deal and began work before the lifting of the embargo. A French official in Baghdad said that Husayn Kamil al-Majid had informed him that If France did not sign the deal before the lifting of the embargo, Baghdad would go with other companies when the embargo is lifted. It was clear that France considered this a blow to its efforts and was convinced that 'Aziz had no powers and that Iraq's positions were unsteady.

After 'Aziz returned to Baghdad, presented his report to Saddam, and accused 'Udayy of hampering his efforts, the differences exploded. During a meeting, the two men exchanged accusations about commercial differences and problems between 'Udayy and Tariq 'Aziz's son.

To the French, the neutralization of 'Aziz has reduced the chances of lifting the embargo on Iraq. Paris, therefore, preferred to wait for another six months to know whether the economic crisis and the explosion of the internal conflicts would force the Iraqi regime to show more flexibility, would weaken the hardliners, or would make the regime embark on a new adventure in the region. France, which is now demanding a clear-cut Iraqi position, does not rule out this possibility. French officials, however, believe that Saddam will first try to take a tough position before taking any step backward. He, however, will consider the internal situation before taking any step because of the al-Anbar uprising, which has put the regime in a very difficult situation with tribes known for their strong support and defense of the regime and for serving in its military forces and security forces in large numbers.

Observers believe that the uprising is a very serious signal of the possibility of a popular explosion in Iraq. This may prompt the United States to work hardly to topple Saddam. What happened in al-Anbar was a true uprising by Sunnis and by tribes known for their loyalty to the regime and for their extreme importance in the Iraqi demographic structure. This is the first time that such an uprising has occurred since the Kurds' uprising in the north and the Shiites uprising in the south in May, 1991. If we also consider the failed coup attempts, bombing operations, assassination attempts, and the volatile security situation even in the capital, we can understand Saddam's reaction to the brutal oppressive operations for which he held his brother Watban responsible, as well as the power struggle they have caused.

## Saddam Chairs RCC-Ba'th Party Meeting on UN Ties

*JN1006173295 Baghdad INA in Arabic*
*1650 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 10 Jun (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has chaired a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and the Iraq Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

During the meeting, the conferees discussed the results of the visit by Tariq 'Aziz to Russia. Iraq's relations with the UN Special Commission and the UN Security Council were also discussed.

On Iraq's relations with the UN Special Commission and the UN Security Council, the conferees stressed Iraq's clear stand which was explained to the friendly states, as well as to the UN Special Commission chairman during his recent visit to Baghdad. This stand is as follows: Iraq attaches great importance to the contents of the report the UN Special Commission will submit to the UN Security Council on 19 June. Will the commission include facts on what has been achieved concerning Section C of Resolution 687, which is connected to the implementation of Paragraph 22, or will it continue with its policy of not closing the completed files and of raising unimportant issues to be used as pretexts by the United States and those revolving in its orbit to obstruct the lifting of the blockade?

This report will be a basic element in the assessment of the Iraqi people and their representative and leading institutions of the extent of the UN Security Council's respect for its obligations toward Iraq in accordance with its own resolutions.

The conferees stressed that Iraq insists on its right to a speedy implementation of Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687 as a first step toward a complete lifting of the unfair embargo, and that this implementation must be in accordance with the correct legal interpretation of Section C and the pertinent subjects.

The conferees also stressed that by rejecting Resolution 986, Iraq has unequivocally indicated that it rejects any restrictions or conditions which encroach on its sovereignty and legal basic rights. Iraq hopes that the sisterly and friendly states will support this fair demand which is in harmony with the UN Security Council resolutions themselves and with the UN Charter and international law.

The meeting was attended by Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi, chief of the Presidential Office.

### Clinton Accused of 'Plot' To Maintain Embargo

*NC1006115595 Paris AFP in English*
*1104 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Baghdad, June 10 (AFP) — An Iraqi newspaper on Saturday [10 June] accused US President Bill Clinton of using a sting operation against zirconium smugglers to mount a new plot to maintain crippling international sanctions imposed on Iraq in 1990.

The government newspaper Al-Qadisiyah said Clinton had deliberately implicated Iraq in the smuggling of zirconium, for which three men were arrested Thursday in New York.

"Clinton's two aims in announcing that Iraq was involved are obvious: to maintain the embargo and cover himself in glory," the newspaper wrote.

The US president wants to "mislead the United Nations Security Council just before the June 19 revision of the sanctions regime on Iraq's oil exports," it added. [passage omitted]

### Rival Kurdish Factions Present Draft Peace Plans

#### PUK Plan

*NC1006170795 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1520 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Ladies and gentlemen: Prompted by its eagerness to end the internal war, ensure stability and security, and restore normality, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] is once again presenting an integrated draft peace plan, consisting of five stages. Each stage is bound to end the state of emergency and to pave the way for stopping the fighting and achieving a comprehensive peace that will safeguard Kurdistan's democratic experiment and restore goodwill to Kurdistan, to the benefit of our Kurdish people's cause in particular and the Iraqi people in general.

The text of the draft peace plan follows:

Draft peace plan for Iraq's Kurdistan:

The first stage — ending the fighting:

A. A cease-fire will be announced over the media of the PUK and the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] — both radio, television, and press.

B. The two sides will convey this decision both in writing and via radio to the field commands in all combat zones.

C. The supervision commission, consisting of representatives of the body that will be agreed upon, will supervise the implementation of the cease-fire along the following battle lines:

1. The [Khanaqah] road.
2. The Balisan road.
3. The Shera road.
4. The Begalas road.
5. [Words indistinct].
6. [Words indistinct].
7. Bahr-Kashawa.
8. Rawandoz.
9. Sayyid Sadiq.
10. Zakho.

The deadline set for implementing this stage is 12 hours.

The second stage:

1. Irbil Governorate.

A. The two sides will agree to deploy equal numbers of PUK and KDP forces between Salah al-Din and (Kushtaba) and between Begalas and [place name indistinct]. The two forces will have assembly points according to the agreement.

B. The town of Irbil will be vacated by all military forces. All the forces there will move to the positions indicated above.

C. The two sides' forces and their armed groups will not be allowed to enter Irbil.

D. The KDP will open a headquarters in Irbil.

E. The two sides will agree on the number of guards required to defend the centers.

F. The two sides' leaders, who will be stationed in Irbil, will have a limited number of guards, to be set in the agreement.

G. The supervision commission will supervise the implementation of these decisions and will draw up plans for the safe arrival and protection of officials of both parties from their respective assembly points to their posts. H. The governor of Irbil, his deputy, and other officials in the governorate, each according to his function, will administer the affairs of the city and maintain law and order in consultation with the committee formed from parliamentarians born in Irbil and drawn from the three lists.

I. All forces will be withdrawn from the cities and districts of Irbil Governorate to the sites allocated to them. Administration officials and employees will do their duties, each according to his function.

2. All revenues from the Ibrahim al-Khalil and other customs posts in the region will be handed over to the central treasury in the presence of the supervision commission.

3. The two parties are forbidden to take any measures against members and supporters of the other party. In cases punishable by law, the competent judicial circles will be in charge of the legal procedures.

The time limit set for implementing this stage is 10 days.

The third stage:

The institutions' resumption of their work:

A. Parliament will meet and hold its regular sessions.

B. A regional cabinet will be formed and will have an expanded base.

C. Both sides, the PUK and the KDP, will submit to the new cabinet when formed and to parliament a statement accounting in detail for the funds they have obtained from the revenues of the region's government since 1 May 1994. The competent sides will audit these accounts.

The time limit set for implementing this stage is 20 days.

The fourth stage:

Agreement will be reached to unite the two sides' efforts and those of the Iraqi opposition, the Unified Iraqi National Congress, and other opposition forces in the struggle against the Saddamist dictatorship in order to topple it and establish a democratic, parliamentary, and federal alternative.

The fifth and final stage:

A process of normalization will be initiated in all other areas of the region; it will be supervised by the supervision commission.

The time limit set for implementing this stage is 15 days.

[Signed] The PUK, 1 June

## KDP Plan

*JN1006202695 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear listeners, our Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] has presented a draft peace plan to end infighting. The following is the text of the plan read by KDP Political Bureau member Sami 'Abd-al-Rahman:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The KDP draft plan to stop fighting and establish peace in Kurdistan.

Proceeding from our people's higher interests and the peace they deserve, out of concern for sparing bloodshed and for clarifying our party's stands which respond to all peace plans in Kurdistan, and as another attempt to restore unity and amity to our people's ranks and to put them once again on the road of construction and progress to achieve their legitimate hopes and aspirations for freedom and honorable living, our KDP presents its plan to end infighting and to achieve a just and lasting peace in Kurdistan:

The first stage:

1. Ending fighting in all Kurdistan.
2. Stopping media campaigns.
3. Stopping all forms of violations.
4. Releasing all prisoners and detainees.

5. Making Irbil a demilitarized city by evacuating all the armed men from the city, including the guards of headquarters and officials. Or, each of the KDP and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] shall have an equal number of headquarters in areas which are far from each other and which are linked with transportation lines important for each of them.

6. Joint forces from the Kurdish parties and the INC [preceding acronym in English] [Iraqi National Congress] shall assume the responsibility of security affairs in the city and its entrances.

This stage shall be implemented within one week of the date of declaring an agreement.

The second stage:

After the implementation of the first stage, the second stage shall begin.

7. The two parties' forces shall be withdrawn from city entrances and outskirts. These forces shall be assembled at an equal number of centers, to be agreed upon, for each side.

8. Rescinding the expropriation of all real estate and returning the citizens' stolen cars and belongings to them. Compensation should be made by those who stole these things should returning them be impossible.

This stage shall be implemented within two weeks after an agreement is announced.

The third stage:

Following the implementation of the second stage, the implementation of the third stage shall begin.

9. The Kurdistan National Council, the parliament, shall begin to exercise its full powers, particularly the formation of a new broad-base coalition government.

10. The new government shall exercise its administrative, security, and financial powers, including the collection of all revenues. It shall spend them in a way to serve the Kurdish people in accordance with the law.

11. The government and the parliament, in cooperation with the Kudish parties and the INC, shall normalize the situation in all Kurdistan, including the abrogation of all the illegal measures, or those measures taken by one party during this crisis.

This stage shall be implemented within one month after the declaration of the agreement.

The fourth stage:

12. Following the implementation of the third stage, the two parties shall pledge to cooperate with each other, to resume dialogue, and to reactivate the normal political process in Kurdistan.

13. The two parties shall pledge to make the necessary preparations to conduct free parliamentary elections under the supervision of international observers.

14. Efforts to hold the Kurdistan National Congress at the appropriate time should resume.

[Signed] The KDP Political Bureau, 10 June

May God's peace and blessing be upon you.

### Rabin Comments on Progress on Syrian Track

*TA1006181995 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[Gadi Sukenik video report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik now reports that following his meeting with Secretary Christopher, Prime Minister Rabin held an impromptu news conference outside his Tel Aviv residence. Let us hear what Mr. Rabin had to say:

[Sukenik] Good evening to you from Rav Ashi Street in Ramat Aviv. Mr. Rabin left his house just two or three minutes ago. We will play an excerpt of a recording we made of his remarks as he came out of his house:

[Begin recording] [Sukenik] Mr. Rabin, now that the meetings of the chiefs of staff and senior officers are about to resume, and at the same time the civilian echelon will discuss all the other issues pertaining to the peace treaty — does this not constitute an extremely significant step toward such an agreement?

[Rabin] I sincerely hope this is the case. This government wants to reach a peace which will provide us with real peace — a peace which every Israeli will recognize as such, wherein every Israeli will be able to travel to Syria, to Damascus or anywhere else, in order to forge commercial or cultural relations. Second, peace itself is a component of security. A situation where there is no motivation for war is the best basis for peace. We must, however, establish security arrangements that will satisfy us in case, God forbid, there is a change in the situation. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew at 1700 GMT on 10 June carries a related report. Asked by correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen whether the public prefers preserving the Golan Heights or a peace treaty with Syria for which we will have to pay a dear price, Rabin answers: "I believe that the public wants peace, and whoever says that we can reach peace while preserving the entire Golan Heights or most of them is simply lying. It is legitimate to claim that the Golan Heights are more important than peace. But whoever believes this should say this outright. To claim, however, that peace is attainable while preserving the entire Golan Heights is lying, especially where the Likud people are concerned."]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 10 June adds: "Prime Minister Rabin says Israel is demanding full normalization from Syria in exchange for a very limited withdrawal. He added that there is still no agreement regarding the depth of withdrawal, its duration, and the final border. Mr. Rabin said Israel wants peace, but not under any conditions or at any price. Mr. Rabin spoke with correspondents in Tel Aviv after being briefed by Secretary of State Christopher about his visit to Damascus."]

### Says No Treaty Unless All Conditions Met

*TA1106065995 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Telephone interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Razi Barqay and political correspondent Udi Segal on 11 June; place not given; from the daily "What's the Hurry" program — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Barqay] We are marking the 13th anniversary of the al-Sultan Ya'qub battle today, which is an opportunity to ask you whether there have been new developments in connection with soldiers missing in that battle, with Ron Arad, and with the other MIA's.

[Rabin] Let us distinguish the al-Sultan Ya'qub battle from the problem of Ron Arad's capture. With regard to the problem of MIA's Baumel, Katz, and Feldman, we have been receiving new information mainly through our ties with the Palestinian Authority. We have been in touch with people who took part in the al-Sultan Ya'qub battle, but we have not solved the problem yet. We are pursuing the matter in ways that should not be elaborated on publicly, and I really hope to get to the truth within six months to a year. [passage omitted]

[Segal] Mr. Prime Minister, the secretary of state is winding up his mission to the region today. In recent days we heard many reports on the remarks of the U.S. President, the secretary of state, and Dennis Ross about optimism in Damascus. What is this optimism of Hafiz al-Asad based on? Has he at last heard what he has been waiting to hear — namely, that Israel is prepared to make a full withdrawal up to the international border?

[Rabin] As you know, this government endorsed the principle of withdrawal as a condition for achieving peace with Syria, but there is as yet no agreement between Syria and Israel on the depth of withdrawal. However, this is not the only component. The said withdrawal to the peace border on which Syria and Israel have not yet agreed requires time; it will be years. The third component is our desire, our demand for a crucial component: Following a very limited withdrawal — because the entire Golan Heights is very small — after a token withdrawal really, we would like to have a period that would also last years, during which full normalization would develop. That should include embassies, borders open to the movement of people and goods. Without these elements we will be definitely unable to consent to any peace treaty.

[Segal] Should we conclude, following the secretary of state's visit to Damascus, that al-Asad now has a better understanding of the timetable — its link to the Israeli elections and the fact that the remaining time for reaching an agreement is only six to eight months?

[Rabin] I have never linked the timetable to elections. As far as I am concerned, the timetable will be subject to the sides' ability to bridge the present gaps on the *four main* components which are, for me, one single package, a four-legged table that cannot stand on three legs. Our ability to sign a peace treaty depends on each of these legs.

[Segal] Can you envisage the possibility that, if a full agreement proves unfeasible, the sides will at least sign an agreement of principles prior to the 1996 elections?

[Rabin] I am not after an agreement of principles. We want to attain a full peace treaty. We will not sign it fully before we bring it up for the people's decision through a national referendum. [passage omitted]

### Rabin, Ministers' Remarks on Talks With Syria Reported

*TA1106112495 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Report by political correspondent Udi Segal]

[FBIS Translated Text] The cabinet meeting ended a few minutes ago. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was queried by the ministers about the negotiations with Syria. Some ministers asked whether there was a political timetable for an arrangement with Syria. Rabin replied: I reject any timetable set in conjunction with the date of general elections; I accept only one set on the basis of the negotiations' practical results.

Minister Shulamit Aloni inquired about the U.S. role in the negotiations, and Rabin clarified: There is no U.S. pressure on Israel to make concessions to Syria.

Minister Yosi Sarid said 15 full months were left until the elections to attain an arrangement with the Syrians.

Prime Minister Rabin again raised the public relations issue. Israeli society finds it hard to understand that yesterday's enemies are not tomorrow's enemies, he said, alluding to the PLO and Syria. Strategically, Rabin added, one of the goals of the peace process is to reduce radical Islam's threat to all the process partners. Rabin reiterated his statement that in the long term, Iran's potential ability to overrun governments in the world is a strategic threat to the entire Middle East.

Regarding the negotiations with the Palestinians, Yitzhaq Rabin noted that 1 July is a target, but not a binding date. He said there are still difficulties in the discussions on the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] redeployment in Judaea and Samaria. Here is what Minister Yosi Sarid said:

[Begin Sarid recording] There are difficulties. There may even be some crisis before 1 July. That is the nature of negotiations: You cannot agree on things before everything is concluded without encountering some crisis that needs to be resolved. It is only natural that each side should try to get as much as possible at the last minute. But despite that, it will happen around that date. If it does not happen on 1 July, it will happen around that time. [end recording]

Police Minister Moshe Shahal confirmed that the IDF will redeploy in three or four Judaea and Samaria towns in the first stage, and that Janin will be the first town. Speaking with us, Minister Shahal confirmed that although the negotiations have not been concluded, the Janin First plan would be a part of the redeployment. [passage omitted]

[A similar report by political correspondent Shlomo Raz on Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1005 GMT on 11 June includes reactions obtained from cabinet ministers after the meeting: "Minister Shetrit today criticized Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres for announcing Israel's final stands at the outset of the negotiations. Negotiations cannot be conducted in this way, Minister Shetrit said; dispelling the vagueness is unwise."

[In a recorded interview, Health Minister Efrayim Sne says: "One does not draw final lines at the outset of negotiations." He adds: "I was glad to hear the prime minister announce today that there is as yet no time frame for the negotiations with Syria."

[Environment Minister Yosi Sarid says in a recorded interview: "The price Israel will have to pay for full peace is known, and if you do not know what the price is, I am willing to tell you: It is a complete withdrawal from the Golan Heights."

[A similar report by David Ze'ev on Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English at 1000 GMT on 11 June cites Sarid as saying after the cabinet meeting that "he believes the issue which allowed the talks between Israel and Syria to move ahead now was the fact that the Syrians dropped their demand that the military restriction zones on either side of the border be the same size."]

### Rabin Said To Criticize U.S. 'Overoptimistic' Reports

*TA1106103595 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Jun 95 p 2*

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin complained to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher that U.S. officials are circulating "overoptimistic" evaluations of the negotiations with Syria, thereby confusing Israeli public opinion over the real state of the negotiations.

"Look at what the newspapers say and at what is really happening," Rabin told his close aides at the weekend following the headlines quoting a senior U.S. official saying that Rabin also agreed to discuss a Golan Heights withdrawal. Senior officials in Jerusalem said last night that Rabin's anger is mainly directed at U.S. Ambassador Martin Indyk, who keeps close contacts with the Israeli media, and according to the officials, even reports on Rabin's positions, sometimes "constructively deviating" from the prime minister's stand.

The sources said that following what he heard, Christopher yesterday hastened to note that Israel and Syria have not yet reached agreement on the withdrawal line or other issues.

Rabin told his close aides that the Americans are spreading optimistic assessments about the state of the negotiations with Syria, while in fact very large gaps remain over all the components of the settlement, including the withdrawal itself.

A U.S. Embassy source in Israel said last night in response that "without taking into account the comments of the various sources, the United States, in mutual understanding with its Israeli allies, notes the advantages of the peace process, and that is what Indyk's briefings to the press focused on."

### Peres Denies Syria Told of Readiness To Withdraw to Border

*TA1106110795 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Jun 95 p 2*

[Report by Alex Fishman and Hemi Shalev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Israel informed Syria via U.S. envoy Dennis Ross that within the framework of a comprehensive peace agreement it intends to withdraw to the international border on the Golan Heights, U.S. sources close to the Israeli-Syrian negotiations said.

That line — the mandatory border — contains slight adjustments to the 4 June 1967 border. The Syrians still believe that the Israeli pullback on the Golan Heights should be up to the 4 June 1967 lines, but the Israeli announcement about its agreement to a complete withdrawal from the plateau provided an opening for negotiations.

Political sources in Jerusalem noted that in the past Israel had already made clear to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher its readiness to withdraw to the international border, but that the message was not handed to the Syrians at Israel's request.

Christopher was asked at the weekend what he thought about Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' remarks hinting that Israel is prepared to withdraw to the international border with Syria. Christopher replied that he is pleased since such pronouncements prepare Israeli public opinion.

The political sources in Jerusalem also said that Israel decided — in consultation with the U.S. peace team — not to ask the Syrians for any public gesture since the Syrian public gestures so far have caused more harm than good to the peace process. For example, they mentioned the Clinton-al-Asad joint news conference in Damascus and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's appearance on Israel Television.

Hemi Shalev adds: Senior political sources in Jerusalem last night denied the reports that Israel informed Syria of its readiness to pullback to the international border on the Golan Heights.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said that no such message was transmitted to Damascus and that nothing has yet been decided on the final withdrawal line. Nevertheless, Peres said that the time is drawing near when Israel will have to make "political decisions."

Israel's Ambassador in Washington Itamar Rabinovich refused to discuss the report directly, but noted that Secretary Christopher said that Israel and Syria are still not agreed on any of the four components of the negotiations, including the withdrawal.

Foreign Ministry senior sources also said that Israel has not informed Syria of a readiness to withdraw to the international border, but nevertheless noted that the Syrians "have every reason" to believe that that is Jerusalem's position. The sources also did not rule out the possibility that the Americans informed the Syrians that as far as they know, Israel has already made a decision on a withdrawal to the international border.

### Sees Need To Upgrade Level of Talks

*TA1106070295 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres believes that since the Israeli-Syrian talks should include issues beyond the security aspect, their level has to be upgraded. Speaking to our political correspondent Shlomo Raz from the United States, where he stopped for a brief visit, he said his declarations on the Golan issue helped to promote the negotiations with Syria, but at present, no more talk on the depth of withdrawal is necessary.

[Begin recording] [Peres] Right now, I do not think any declarations are necessary beyond what we have already declared, namely, that we truly want peace, that we are prepared to make a withdrawal on the Golan Heights, that we value peace talks with Syria more than any previous negotiations, because they may be the last negotiations.

[Raz] Is it your view that these negotiations can be concluded by the end of 1995?

[Peres] My view is based on insufficient data, because I truly do not know what al-Asad's intentions are. I think hardly anyone knows. I know only one thing: that had al-Asad said no, the negotiations would have died out. Since he said yes, negotiations were launched, but not completed; they are not even in progress yet. The first meeting of the chiefs of staff will only take place at the end of the month, and even then there will be a lull, and then more negotiations. Yet the very fact that the negotiations did not die and that serious talks are being launched is of course a very encouraging sign.

[Raz] Now that the format of the talks has been established, how vital is it that their level be upgraded — possibly to the very highest level of Prime Minister Rabin on the one hand and President al-Asad on the other?

[Peres] Look, the level is necessary for the discussion of the other issues on the agenda. We know the security aspect is very important, but it is not the only one. We need to discuss the nature of peace, the economic relations, the final border between us and Syria. We need to discuss a great many things, and there are many things on which the sides hold opposite stands.

[Raz] Mr. Peres, thank you very much for this interview.

[Peres] You are welcome. [end recording]

### Sees Agreement in Principle in 7 Months

*TA1106121595 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Jun 95 p 3*

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said last night that Israel and Syria can reach "at least an agreement in principle" in the seven months left before the campaigning starts in Israel and the United States.

"If the Syrians show flexibility as we have done," Peres said in a telephone conversation from the United States, "an agreement can be reached." This is the first time that the public has been told about the possibility that Israel and Syria will sign an agreement of principles and not a detailed peace treaty as the first step toward establishing peace ties between them.

Political sources said yesterday that Peres expressed to Warren Christopher his concern that, if things progress at the current rate, an agreement will not be reached within seven months and that the military talks will be extended due to the uncompromising stands of the officers on both sides. Referring to Christopher's announcement in Damascus on convening the chiefs of staff talks, Peres said he is aware that "we have to make political decisions now." Nevertheless, he stressed that Israel has not yet decided on the final withdrawal line and has not even discussed it.

Peres noted that he feels there is "a vast and real improvement" in the negotiating atmosphere between the two states. Up to now, he said, the Syrians "responded angrily to anything good we said, and now they are starting to understand that we are serious."

### Beilin Views Developments on Syrian Track

*TA1006124895 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[Telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin by Steve Linde; place and date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Beilin] One has to take into consideration one very important thing: we are still negotiating about the guidelines for the negotiations, and we were stuck at Article 5, which referred both to normalization and to the permanent border. Now, if we talk not only about the security measures, but also about these two very important issues, that may create a change in the negotiations about the guidelines and open the way for the substantial negotiations which will be conducive to the final agreement.

[Linde] Surely Syria wouldn't have agreed to the renewal of talks unless Israel expressed its readiness for a full withdrawal from the Golan.

[Beilin] There is no readiness like that. Israel has not announced something like that. We are going to negotiate about the final border, and we are not going to accept any Syrian demand before the negotiations themselves.

[Linde] What kind of guarantees is the U.S. offering Israel to prevent a surprise Syrian attack?

[Beilin] I am not aware of anything specific right now, but of course once we go for peace and we have an agreement with the Syrians, I am sure that the United States will do whatever it can in order to assure that such an agreement will be a permanent one and will not be harmed by any side which is a signatory on this agreement.

[Linde] Including stationing troops on the Golan Heights?

[Beilin] There is no such agreement. Yet, if you ask me whether that would be a positive development, my answer will be positive.

[Linde] Dr. Beilin, we heard Prime Minister Rabin invite President al-Asad to Jerusalem. What are the chances of upgrading the negotiations perhaps to the level of foreign ministers, and then finally a summit between the prime minister and al-Asad?

[Beilin] I am afraid that not yet. I mean the prime minister invited President al-Asad to meet with him in Jerusalem or elsewhere in the world, wherever he wants. I hope that it will be realistic, I am not sure whether it is realistic right now, and I believe that only if such negotiations are being held by a high-level, a high political level, the process might be accelerated.

[Linde] Do you trust al-Asad?

[Beilin] Well, the question is whether I have an alternative, not whether I trust. The question is not whether al-Asad trusts us or whether we trust al-Asad; what I trust is that once an agreement is signed by both sides there is a fair chance that it will be implemented and respected by both, and that was proved by the Syrians in the last 20 years.

[Linde] But what do you say to Israelis both from the opposition and residents of the Golan who are worried about an Israeli withdrawal? They say this will bring about insecurity, not security.

[Beilin] A withdrawal on the Golan Heights will end a chapter of wars in this part of the world, and that is the most important message. I think that it will create a very different picture of the Middle East, a Middle East in a peaceful situation. I think that strategically it is a revolution, and that if there is an agreement which is satisfying us security-wise the price will be worthwhile.

[Linde] Deputy foreign minister, one final question: You have said for the past year or so that a peace deal with Syria is a long way off. Do you still feel this way?

[Beilin] I am sure that we don't have too much time. I am afraid that in 1996 it won't be possible to have an agreement with them, mainly because of the elections in the United States and also because of the elections in Israel. As a result of this what we have in front of us is about seven months; in this period we will have to have an agreement. Once there is a breakthrough about the substantial issues we will not need too much time because if the Syrians are ready to make peace with Israel; if Israel is ready to withdraw on the Golan Heights; if both of us are ready and the Americans will be involved in the process and all of us know more or less what the solution is going to be, I don't think that we will need too much time in order to make an agreement.

### Likud Charges Rabin Leading to 'Full Withdrawal'

*TA1006145695 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Likud has accused Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin of frantically leading the country to a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights and to the evacuation of settlements merely in order to attain a political achievement with Syria prior to the Knesset election campaign.

Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar says that the Likud statement says that Rabin is turning political negotiations — which are sensitive and extremely important from the political-security point of view — into a pawn in the political game.

### Likud Postpones Referendum Bill 1 Week To Focus on Golan

*TA1206103395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The management of the Likud faction has decided to put off util next week the Knesset vote on the bill stipulating that a referendum on the Golan Heights issue will be held within the next six months. The Likud wants the public debate this week to focus on the legislation for bolstering the legal status of the Golan.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the bill calling for a referendum now was cosigned by Likud

Knesset Member [MK] David Magen and Labor MK Avi Yehezqel. MK Yehezqel said that the postponement was made in coordination with him and with his consent.

### Minister Aloni: Rabin's Aides Agitating Golan Settlers

*TA0906161295 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 9 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Minister Shulamit Aloni says that Prime Minister Rabin's associates are agitating Golan Heights settlers against the withdrawal under the assumption that their opposition will help the prime minister in the negotiations with Syria. Minister Aloni says that this is a mistake through which Labor leaders have forfeited their ability to influence the Golan settlers. Speaking on a talk show, Minister Aloni also stated she is firmly opposed to a referendum on the peace agreement with Syria.

### Golan Settlers Call For Referendum or Elections 'Now'

*TA1206053095 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The chairman of the Third Way, Yehuda Har'el, is expected to inform Labor Party Secretary General Nisim Zvili today that he is quitting the party. The Third Way has joined the Golan residents in calling for a referendum now on the future of the Golan.

The Golan Residents Committee discussed steps it would take against the government's peace deal with Syria at a meeting in Kibbutz Mevo Hama last night. Committee member Udi Margalit told Steve Linde what they decided:

[Begin recording] [Margalit] We call the Israeli Government to go immediately for referendum or to announce new elections. Now, we urge the government to accept the idea of a real majority which, to our understanding, is at least 50 percent of those who have a right to vote. If the government will do so, that means that they are accepting the democratic or legitimate playground. We will respond in accordance; meaning, in a democratic campaign.

[Linde] Certainly, the government will not meet these demands. What do you intend to do?

[Margalit] Well, we have decided upon several steps that we are going to take, that will adjust to these circumstances; meaning, in our understanding, the government will fail to play on the legitimate playground, let us say. I would not go into further details about those steps or those plans, but we certainly made a few surprises for the Israeli Government.

[Linde] Last time there was a hunger strike at Gamla. Is something like this planned again?

[Margalit] Maybe of the same sort, maybe something different, but anyway, with the same impact, I would say. Meaning, something that will have a major influence over the Israeli public opinion. [end recording]

### Shahaq To Discuss Golan 'Compensation Package' in U.S.

*TA1106123495 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Jun 95 pp 1, 2*

[Report by Alon Pinkas]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A list of systems Israel would require from the US as compensation for any Golan Heights withdrawal will be discussed by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahaq with top Pentagon and military officials at the same time as his three-day meeting with Syrian Chief of Staff Gen. Hikmat Shihabi, scheduled to begin June 27.

The list, commonly referred to in Israeli defense circles as the "compensation package" or the "needs list," includes the advanced JSTARS surveillance and coordination airplane, stationary ground early warning stations, satellite transformation and linkage stations, access to US high-resolution satellite information on the region, and other systems that defense sources decline to identify. The sources estimate the total value of the package at over $2.5 billion.

The list was previously presented to the Americans by former chief of staff Ehud Baraq when he visited the US last December and met Shihabi. The list was again discussed by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin last month when he met with US Defense Secretary William Perry and again by Shahaq in May, when he was hosted by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. John Shalikashvili.

In private, however, Israeli diplomatic and defense sources doubt President Bill Clinton's ability to muster the financial resources an Israeli-Syrian agreement would probably require. Clinton would need to get the approval of a Republican-controlled Congress, which may not be overly enthusiastic about supporting any financial or political assistance to Syria, especially if that serves Clinton's foreign policy in an election year.

Meanwhile, Shahaq is expected this week to decide who will lead the talks with the Syrians once his talks are completed. The two names mentioned are the prime minister's military secretary, Maj.-Gen. Dani Yatom, and OC [Officer Commanding] Planning Branch Maj.-Gen. 'Uzi Dayan. Another possibility is the newly-appointed OC Intelligence Brig.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, who takes office in August.

## U.S. Seen Trying To Get Public To Accept Golan Withdrawal

*TA1106163595 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Jun 95 p A2*

[Commentary by Aluf Ben: "Gentle Pressure"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Prior to Secretary of State Warren Christopher's current visit to the Middle East, the U.S. Administration reached the conclusion that the Israeli public's obstinacy poses the main obstacle to a peace agreement between Syria and Israel. In the past, the Americans tried to persuade Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to initiate some goodwill gestures vis-a-vis the Israeli public, but these efforts were exhausting and the results disappointing.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's remarks on Israel Television served to underscore only the deep psychological divide between the two parties and not any profound yearning for peace in Damascus. This time, the direct approach was used. The U.S. Administration tends to engage in preparatory staff work and carry out detailed preparations before making any political move. On the eve of Christopher's tour, it was agreed that the secretary of state would appeal directly to Israel Television viewers, stressing the fruits of peace and the U.S. commitment to Israel's security while playing down the price Israel would be paying in implementing a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Warren Christopher followed the script prepared by his aides. He refused to answer any questions pertaining to the withdrawal, explaining that he, as a mediator, was barred from discussing the details of the negotiations. In the same breath, however, he did not hesitate to specify the normalization clauses in the arrangement which, Christopher noted, would be a warm peace accompanied by trade, tourism, and the opening of embassies in both countries. He only hinted at the price once, when he said that Shim'on Peres' remarks about a pullback to the international border would spare the Israeli public future surprises.

The secretary of state demonstrated a new style of U.S. involvement in the peace process, which can be described as "gentle pressure." No more accusations against Israel of stubbornness and intransigence, as stated by Kissinger and Baker, but rather efforts to constantly impress its leaders with the urgency of reaching an agreement before the elections while, at the same time, promising the fruits of peace to the public. Christopher clarified that the administration is serious in its intention to step up the pace, because now is the time "to harness all efforts" in order to achieve a Syrian-Israeli accord. Christopher, a man without charisma, is not exactly the ideal salesman for the Israeli public, although he exhibited a great deal of self-confidence with regard to the possibility of reaching a peace treaty that would be acceptable to both sides.

In the coming months, President Bill Clinton is also expected to join the public relations offensive on Israeli television. But the Americans — by being the ones to say how much al-Asad wants peace instead of letting the Israeli public hear this from the horse's mouth — are repeating the mistake Clinton made in the two news conferences he held following his meetings with the Syrian president. The administration is convinced that large-scale goodwill gestures will be forthcoming from the Syrian leader in the last stage of the negotiations, after he meets Prime Minister Rabin. Christopher even promised as much to the television viewers on 9 June.

## Rabin Explains Army's Right To Enter Towns

*TA1106155395 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1500 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that even when the Israeli army's redeployment is implemented in the West Bank as part of the next phase of the agreement with the Palestinians, Israel will have a right to enter the main Palestinian population centers. Rabin repeated that he does not view July 1st as a deadline for concluding negotiations and warned that putting too much emphasis on a date instead of the details could lead to bloodshed. David Ze'ev reports:

[Begin Ze'ev recording] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told the cabinet Israeli troops would be permitted to operate in the main Palestinian population centers, though they would not be stationed there on a permanent basis. Rabin is quoted by a senior official present at the weekly cabinet meeting as saying that in the Declaration of Principles [DOP] signed at Oslo, there is no mention of an Israeli withdrawal, only the concept of redeployment. Rabin also repeated that July 1st is not a deadline but a target date. The prime minister said Israel is committed to implementing the DOP, and he said the Palestinians should not interpret his position as stubbornness, but that more important than the date is making sure the arrangements in the West Bank — far more complex than the Gaza Strip — are organized properly. Otherwise, the prime minister said, the result would be bloodshed. Imagine what would happen, he said, if there is a terrorist attack.

With the Syrians, the prime minister said, there is not even a target date; the only date singled out is June 27th, when the chiefs of staff of the two countries are to start negotiating. [passage omitted] [end recording]

## Secretary Christopher Holds Talks With King Husayn

### Discuss Peace Process, Relations

*JN1106200395 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn received the U.S. secretary of state and his delegation at Raghadan Palace today, where they held a closed meeting that lasted for some time. This was followed by an expanded meeting attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and senior officials from both sides.

Christopher briefed His Majesty King Husayn on the results of his talks with officials in Damascus, Cairo, and Israel and with the Palestinian National Authority. He voiced satisfaction with the existence of tangible progress on all tracks of the peace process toward achieving a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in this region.

During the meeting, Christopher stressed the U.S. President's determination to wrirte off Jordanian debts to the U.S. The U.S. Administration is also studying ways to modernize and develop the Jordanian Armed Forces, in view of the important role they are playing in preserving security and stability in this region.

Christopher also voiced his country's support for efforts to make the Amman economic summit successful by holding meetings with officials and activating the role of the U.S. private sector in this field. He also stressed the regional importance of the conference, as well as the hopes pinned on it for developing the region and improving the standard of living of its people in peace time. Such a development, he said, will be a major step toward entrenching the bases of peace and stability in it. [passage omitted]

### Holds Joint News Conference

*JN1106164495 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1600 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[News conference by King Husayn and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher with foreign and domestic correspondents in Amman on 11 June — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Husayn] Ladies and gentlemen: I would like once again to say how delighted we are — myself, the government, and the people of Jordan — to receive the secretary of state and his able colleagues and to welcome a very dear friend back to Jordan. It has become almost part of the scene and it reflects very much the commitment and the interest of the United States in helping all of us in this region achieve a comprehensive peace and contribute our share for a more stable future for the coming generations, one where there hopefully will be every chance for them to fulfill themselves and to achieve what is worthy of them. I would like to say that on this occasion we had the chance to talk again about everything as we do, as friends do, and I am extremely optimistic by all I have heard. And if the secretary of state would permit me a private local Jordanian joke, whenever we see our minister of finance smiling here, we are very happy because things would suggest that we are out of trouble and the future looks good. And I have seen the secretary smiling more often on this visit than on any other. And I hope that I am justified in my optimism and I hope that the smile will always be there and I hope that we will achieve with the help of our friends and the dedication, commitment of our friends, and all partaking positions of responsibility in this part of the world, our goal of a peaceful area and of happy future for all our peoples. Thank you.

[Christopher] Your Majesty, thank you, and let me say how pleased I am to be here again as a guest of his majesty. With his vision and courage and leadership, a warm peace is taking shape between Israel and Jordan, and I think it is much to his everlasting credit. The United States recognizes the risks that the king and Jordan have taken for peace, and of course, as the underlying reason why President Clinton has been determined to work with the Congress to forgive all of Jordan's debt to the United States. While the legislative situation remains uncertain at the moment, nevertheless, it is clear that the president has formed a bipartisan coalition, a consensus for total debt forgiveness for Jordan. Ultimately through one legislative vehicle or another, I am sure it will get done. In addition to that, there is a renewed security dialogue between the United States and Jordan as we seek to address Jordan's security needs. The eyes of the region and the world will be on Jordan when the King hosts the Amman economic summit this October. Working together, I think we can demonstrate that the Middle East is open for business, the private sector is welcome, and that peace will bring tangible benefits to millions of people. My own feeling is that there should be economic development in this important region before, during, and after the Amman summit. The summit caps that endeavor, but it is something that we can work at right now as well as after the summit.

As the king kindly said, this is the last stop on an encouraging trip to the region, there has been significant progress and renewed momentum on the various tracks. I briefed the king on the status of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations in light of the meetings I have had in just the last two or three days with Prime Minister Rabin and Chairman 'Arafat. Based upon those discussions, I told him that I felt there is a determination on both sides to reach agreement implementing phase two of the Declaration of Principles and to do so within the timeframe that the parties have set. I also told the king briefly about my meetings with President al-Asad in Syria. The fact that a date has now been set for the meeting of the chiefs of staff in Washington to kick off the military-military talks, I think, is a reflection of the fact that on that track, we are reaching a new and more intensive phase.

Finally, I conveyed to the king a brief sense of the meeting that took place in Cairo last Friday between Prime Minister Rabin and President Mubarak, a meeting that I think rejuvenated their friendship and partnership that's meant so much to the cause of peace in this region. Serious problems remain to be solved and much much work remains to be done, but I think that the trip has reinforced my feeling that there is a tremendous opportunity to move now toward the goal of a comprehensive peace — perhaps a better opportunity than at any time during the two and a half years that I have been in office.

The United States counts on the aid of Jordan, but especially on the wise council of King Husayn, which we frequently call upon and always pay great heed to. Your Majesty, as we work to maintain the momentum for peace, we want to work very closely with you and with Jordan.

[Correspondent] Mr. Christopher, two days (?ago you have mentioned) an expected meeting between Prime Minister Rabin and President Hafiz al-Asad. Did you discuss this point with President al-Asad in Damascus? And what was his position against, regarding this point? Thank you.

[Christopher] At some point in the process, of course, it will be appropriate for President al-Asad and Prime Minister Rabin to meet. That point has not yet been reached. And, of course, that will be up to the parties but it remains, I'm sure, under consideration as we move through this process.

[Correspondent] Jordan last month condemned Washington's veto of a UN resolution against Israel's confiscation of Arab land in Jerusalem. And our officials described the move as hypocritical and that it cast doubt over the U.S.'s credibility as an honest broker in the peace talks. What do you have to say to both the Jordanian Government and the people about that?

[Christopher] What I would have to say is that that particular episode seems to be behind us and I think we ought to put it behind us. The decision of Prime Minister Rabin to put on hold the thought of a confiscation, I think, has been an important element in the improved relations in this region. And, I think I would be able to say that I've not noticed that my role as a honest broker has been unduly handicapped by that particular action in the United Nations. The United States continues to play the most objective impartial role that we can and I'm very gratified by the acceptance that I have at the parties in trying to continue to play that role. The man behind you, sorry, Mr. Ross:

[Correspondent] Mr. Secretary: Jordan is about to sign an agreement with Iran doubling its annual trade. Did you discuss that with King Husayn and did you try to persuade him to adhere to the U.S. boycott of Iran?

[Christopher] Our views on Iran are well known. In the space of the last hour, hour and a half, that's one of the subjects that we did not discuss. As I say, our views with respect to Iran are well known, and we particularly urge countries not to engage in any military relationship — certainly not any kind of nuclear cooperation — and to avoid any soft loans or other concessionary credits. The United States has taken a very determined action with respect to Iran and we hope that that will serve as a beacon to other countries as they evaluate their own policies with respect to Iran, which, we continue to think, poses great dangers in terms of its promotion of terrorism and its undermining of the peace process.

[Correspondent] Mr. Christopher, Jordan has been trying to modernize its Armed Forces. How far the United States is willing to go in meeting Jordanian needs, military equipment?

[Christopher] That is a subject that's under discussion between the United States and appropriate officials of Jordan. The vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Mr. William Owens, was here and he discussed that matter with Jordanian authorities. It's actively under consideration between our two countries. I would say the first order of business at the moment is the Jordanian debt relief, but we intend to not make that our sole focus, but also, as I said in my remarks, to have a renewed sense of concern about the security of Jordan and to see how the United States might be helpful.

[Correspondent] Mr. Secretary: As you acknowledged, the legislative situation regarding foreign aid and debt relief are uncertain. Given the fact that you seem so optimistic about the prospects for peace between Israel and Syria, how confident are you, after conversations with congressional leaders, that you and the president will be able to deliver on a commitment — financial and economic and military and otherwise — to underwrite any peace agreement?

[Christopher] Carol, that's a very hypothetical question because a peace agreement has not been reached and the United States has not suggested or proposed any financial contribution in connection with that peace agreement. But, recognizing that's a very hypothetical question, let me answer by saying that I retain a strong conviction that if there is a peace agreement here in this region, particularly one that brings about a comprehensive peace, that the United States will and the Congress will support for those who take the risks for peace. We've done in in the past. It's so fundamentally in our national interest to do so. We have such a large stake in a comprehensive peace in this region that I would look forward to the day when I could try to persuade Congress that they should be supportive of whatever support we might give to those who took risks to achieve a comprehensive peace.

[Husayn] Thank you very very much indeed, ladies and gentlemen.

### Daily 'Satisfied' With Visit

*JN1206070895 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 12 Jun 95 pp 1, 15*

[Editorial: "Reasserting U.S. Commitments"]

[FBIS Translated Text] After meeting with Mr. Warren Christopher, His Majesty King Husayn said that the U.S. secretary of state's tour, which ended yesterday, reflects the United States' interest in and commitment to helping the parties concerned in the Middle East achieve a just and comprehensive peace and establish a future that is more stable for coming generations.

During the joint news conference held by King Husayn and Christopher, it was clear how satisfied his majesty was with the outcome of the U.S. secretary of state's recent tour of a number of Middle East capitals and the accompanying tangible progress on the road to reactivating bilateral negotiations on the Syrian-Israeli track.

This important change was not the only factor that increased King Husayn's optimism over the results of the U.S. secretary's tour, including his visit to Jordan. This is so because Warren Christopher iterated that the U.S. Administration is committed to reducing Jordan's debt to the United States and is also committed to responding to Jordan's defense needs in the next stage.

Hence, the iteration of these U.S. commitments amid an escalating hope of achieving desired progress on the other tracks of peace in the region really calls for optimism from the Jordanians, Arabs, and those who belong to the peace camp. All of those in the end have managed to overcome obstacles and get closer to achieving the desired objective in the region, that is, a just and comprehensive peace acceptable to the next generations.

We are satisfied with the outcome of the U.S. secretary's recent tour of a number of the region's capitals and we await the launching of Syrian-Israeli negotiations along with the completion of negotiations on the interim stage. At the same time, we hope that the United States will continue its persistent diplomatic efforts and will keep making such indispensable efforts to fulfill all the objectives set at the start of the peace process in Madrid in October of 1991.

## Iranian Industry Minister Arrives for Visit

### Trade Minister Greets Guest

*JN1106121095 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti has received visiting Iranian Minister of Industry Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh. Talks dealt with Jordanian-Iranian relations and means of promoting them in political, economic, and trade fields. They also touched upon a number of regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Earlier this morning, Mr. Ne'matzadeh and his counterpart 'Ali Abu-al-Raghib co-chaired the meeting of the Jordanian-Iranian joint committee. Following the talks, Minister of Trade and Industry Abu-al-Raghib said Jordan and Iran have agreed on the need to increase their trade volume. He said the two countries underlined the importance of launching joint industrial ventures and activating the role of the private sector of both sides.

He said the talks also focused on the bases and mechanisms of bilateral economic and trade exchange. The minister said that at tomorrow's second and final session, the two sides will resume discussions after which they will sign a new accord for economic cooperation between Jordan and Iran.

### Amman 'Not Linked' to U.S. Embargo

*JN1106084395 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Jun 95 p 3*

[Report by P.V. Vivekanand]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman — Jordan and Iran open talks here on Sunday [11 June] on expanding trade and launching joint projects, and Minister of Industry and Trade 'Ali Abu-al-Raghib said the Kingdom and the Islamic republic were aiming to double the trade between them and seek industrial cooperation.

"We are going to look into trade agreement and pursue whatever is needed to serve our national interests," Mr. Abu-Al-Raghib said after he received his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh.

Jordan exported goods worth $30 million to Iran and imported Iranian products worth $20 million in 1994.

Jordan is seeking to increase its exports of phosphates, fertilisers and chemicals to Iran, which bought a substantial quantity of these items in 1991 Mr. Abu-al-Raghib told the Jordan Times.

"We believe that there are many avenues of trade and industrial cooperaton between Jordan and Iran, and we will be exploring all possibilities in our talks with the Iranian minister," Mr. Abu-al-Raghib said.

Mr. Ne'matzadeh is expected to attend the opening of an Iranian trade fair in Amman on Monday. Iran held a similiar fair in the Kingdom in 1992.

Mr. Abu-al-Raghib and Mr. Ne'matzadeh will chair meetings of a joint Jordanian-Iranian economic committee and sign protocols upgrading bilateral agreements signed in 1963 and 1977, Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary general Mohammad Smadi said Tuesday.

One agreement will cover trade and the other will be on land and maritime transport between Jordan and Iran.

The joint committee will discuss joint ventures with Jordan benefiting from Iran's experience in the manufacture of vehicles including buses and auto spare parts in addition to phosphate-related industries, according to Dr. Smadi.

Speaking to reporters after arrival, Mr. Ne'matzadeh denounced the U.S.-imposed trade sanctions against his country and said the Tehran government was determined not to be cowered by the American move.

"We have been suffering for the past six years from the U.S. embargo against our country," the Iranian minister told reproters. Iran is largely self-sufficient for its needs, and "in the field of industry we have no dependency on the U.S."

U.S. President Bill Clinton, accusing Iran of pushing a campaign to acquire nuclear weapons and supporting international terrorism, announced the sweeping traded embargo on the Islamic republic on April 30. The move took effect on June 6.

Washington also called on other countries to join the embargo, but only Israel and Uzbekistan have heeded the call.

Asked how Jordan viewed the American move against Iran, Mr. Abu-al-Raghib said: "This is strictly an American-Iranian issue, and we are not linked to it." "Jordan is a sovereign country and will take decisions and adopt actions as dictated by its national interests and its political and economic agenda," the minister added.

Topics for Mr. Ne'matzadeh's talks here include joint projects in transport, energy, water, fertilisers and phosphates.

In 1991, Iran reported the discovery of massive deposits of phosphates in central parts of the country and estimated that it would take five to six years before commercial production could start.

However, Iranian officials say imports of phosphates from Jordan could continue as long as the prices and quality ofered by the Kingdom are competitive.

Dr. Smadi said Iran had a capacity to import up to 700,000 tonnes of phosphates.

The Iranian minister is scheduled to meet with Jordanian industralists at the Amman Chamber of Industry on Sunday.

Iran was reported to have proposed the establishment of a joint venture to produce tractors in Jordan, but the status of negotiations, if any, on the proposal was not known.

It is the first visit of an Iranian minister to Jordan in nearly one year.

"We are looking for closer trade cooperaton with Jordan," Husain Ishaqi, an Iranian official who arrived here earlier this week to prepare for Mr. Ne'matzadeh's visit, was quoted as saying by the Associated Press.

Jordanian-Iranian relations suffered during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war when Jordan backed Iraq. Amman-Tehran diplomatic relations were cut in 1981, but were restored in 1991.

Iran and Jordan reopened their embassies in each other's capital in 1991, and Tehran also appointed an ambassador to the Kingdom in the same year. Jordan's embassy in Tehran remains at the charge d'affaires level.

### Increased Joint Projects Sought

*JN1106142395 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The meetings of the Jordanian-Iranian joint committee began at the Ministry of Industry and Trade today. The Jordanian side was headed by Industry and Trade Minister Engineer 'Ali Abu-al-Raghib, and the Iranian side was headed by Industries Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh. The two sides discussed bilateral relations. Here are further details in the following report by our correspondent Muna al-Rawashidah:

[Begin al-Rawashidah recording] Industry and Trade Minister 'Ali Abu-al-Raghib stressed during his meeting with Iranian Industries Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh the need to enhance economic and trade cooperation and to build strong economic relations with Iran. He reviewed aspects of industrial and trade cooperation, particularly mining industries. He also called for increasing the volume of trade exchange between the two countries, which has dropped over the two past years; for establishing joint investment projects; for promoting the role of private sectors in both countries; and for bolstering cooperation in the transportation, telecommunications, and energy areas.

For his part, the Iranian minister of industries called for developing and expanding the scope of economic relations in the service of the interests of both countries in view of the privileges the two countries are enjoying, particularly their unique geographic locations.

The minister also discussed the five-year-plan for economic development and reviewed areas of progress in all sectors and establishments in Iran. He also announced that Iran is ready to take part in construction, road, energy, and telecommunications projects in Jordan. He also voiced readiness to exchange joint investment activity and to offer engineering and consultative services to Jordan. He then asserted that plans to hold the sixth fair of Iranian products are aimed at promoting economic and trade relations between the two countries. [end recording]

Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti this morning received at his office Iranian Industries Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh, who is currently visiting Jordan. Al-Kabariti discussed with the visiting Iranian minister bilateral relations and ways to promote them in political, economic, and trade areas. They exchanged views on several regional and international issues of common interest. They also stressed the need to enhance relations between the two countries in all areas in order to serve the joint interests of both countries' peoples.

### King Husayn Confers With Guest

*JN1106174695 Amman Radio Jordan in English*
*1600 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] His majesty the king has conferred with visiting Iranian Industry Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh, who conveyed to the king a message from President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The message dealt with ways of enhancing Jordanian-Iranian ties and prospects of bilateral cooperation, particularly in economic spheres.

His majesty told the Iranian minister that Jordan was keen on cooperation among Islamic states to develop the potentials of the Muslim world. His majesty underlined the need for dialogue to tackle crises that might arise between states in order to build a world where the spirit of cooperation prevailed. Mr. Ne'matzadeh stressed the common spiritual and historic denominators between Jordan and Iran and called for closer economic cooperation between the two countries.

### Tehran Rounds Up Visit

*LD1206103195 Tehran IRNA in English*
*0628 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman June 12, IRNA — The first Joint Iran-Jordan Economic Commission started work here Sunday [11 June].

Jordanian Minister of Trade and Industry 'Ali Abu-al-Raghib in the session voiced his country's readiness to promote economic and commercial cooperation with Iran on the basis of mutual interests.

He expressed hope that the volume of trade between the two countries would expand to enable joint projects to be carried out and the private sector to be strengthened.

Abu-al-Raghib remarked that there were areas of cooperation between Tehran and Amman such as in power, telecommunication and other strategic fields.

Meanwhile, the Iranian Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh referred to various common cultural and religious grounds between the two nations and said the two countries could be active in economic fields at international levels.

Pointing out that Iran had managed to boost economic growth in the country during the first five-year economic plan by 8 percent while carrying out reconstruction plans after the imposed war, he briefed the Jordanian minister on the achievements of the first plan in building roads and dams, power plants and other important industrial projects.

Underlining Iran's potential in carrying out industrial projects, he proposed for Iran-Jordan cooperation in this respect. On the agenda of the current commission he expressed hope that an agreement would be signed in sea and air transportation and tourism as well as in commercial and industrial areas.

Referring to the setting up of the third exhibition of Iranian commercial and industrial goods in Jordan in which major Iranian industrial firms will take part, Ne'matzadeh hoped that exchange of goods between the two countries would further expand.

The Iranian minister also met with Jordan's King Husayn Sunday and submitted to him a written message from President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

He outlined the agreements reached in Amman for economic cooperation and hoped that Iran could provide a proper ground for mutual cooperaton with the valuable experience it gained in the post-revolution era in line with its policy of cooperating with Third World countries, regional Muslim nations in particular.

King Husayn thanked President Rafsanjani for his message and termed as sincere and brotherly the ties with Iran.

He remarked that his country would always try to strengthen relations between the two Muslim states, commenting that the first joint economic commission would serve as a big stride in the expansion of ties especially in scientific, technological and economic areas.

The Jordanian king described Iran's role in the region as very important and strategic and stated that under the present circumstance, the settlement of problems pertaining to the Islamic world and regional Muslims demanded the continued exchange of views and coordination among them. He also voiced his country's readiness to have overall coordination with Islamic Iran to settle problems facing the Islamic world. King Husayn also conveyed his warm greetings to the Iranian Muslim Government and nation.

## House Opens Term To Debate Boycott of Israel

*JN1206134995 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The House of Representatives held its first session of the current extraordinary term under Speaker Sa'd Hayil al-Surur. Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir and a number of ministers attended the meeting. At the beginning of today's session, a royal decree was read out adjourning Parliament's ordinary term as of 22 February. A royal decree summoning the Parliament for an extraordinary term was also read out. [passage omitted]

During its current term, the House of Representatives will discuss a number of important draft laws, including the Professions Licenses Law, the Journalists'Association Law, the Civil Status Law, the Civil Law, the Social Security Law, the Illicit Profit Law, the Labor Law, the Nature Preservation Law, the Artists Union Law, the Election Draft Law, and the Draft Law on the Economic Boycott and Banning Collaboration with the Enemy. The House will also discuss financial laws, such as the Income Tax Law, the General Sales Tax, and the Companies, Investment, and Industrial Estates Law. In addition, the House will discuss amendments to the House of Representatives bylaws, prices, and the supply policy.

### UN Team Arrives To Discuss 'Missing' Officials

*NC1206091395 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A UN delegation arrived in Lebanon today on a one-day visit during which it will meet with Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri and the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry.

At the airport, head of the delegation (Dennis Holiday) said the delegation's visit is of a humanitarian and not a political nature, noting that its mission is confined to discussing the protection of UN personnel present in Lebanon and the adoption of the necessary measures to facilitate their work and safeguard their security with Lebanese Government officials.

(Holiday) said the delegation especially came to Lebanon to discuss the fate of a number of missing UN officials. He urged the Lebanese Government to do its utmost to help the UN delegation and to furnish it with thorough information on the fate of the missing UN officials.

### Israeli President Visits Security Zone in South

*NC1206083495 Kafr Killa Voice of the South in Arabic 0700 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] South Lebanese Army [SLA] Commander General Antoine Lahd has stated that there are no problems of land or water between Lebanon and Israel but there is a problem of security and peace. He said he hopes the Lebanese state will be able to achieve security and peace so that we and Israel can live as good neighbors.

Gen. Lahd received Israeli President 'Ezer Weizman in the Lebanese-Israeli border area near Kafr Killa town a short while ago. He expressed the hope that the next visit of the Israeli president to Lebanon will be to Beirut and not to this particular area.

For his part, Weizman affirmed that Israel will not abandon its friends under any circumstances. Gen. Lahd expressed the hope that Weizman will visit Beirut. Weizman said: Will I visit Beirut via Damascus or visit Damascus via Beirut? Weizman said he visited Damascus 56 years ago via Beirut passing through Sawfar and Bhamdun. He also flew over Damascus 24 years ago.

Answering a question on the Lebanese state's judicial prosecution of the area's inhabitants and the SLA soldiers at a time when Israel has made it a condition that the future of the inhabitants and the SLA soldiers should be safeguarded, Gen. Lahd said: The state that is prosecuting the inhabitants and soldiers these days will not be the same state that one day will lick the signatures of the prosecution orders issued against the SLA soldiers and the area's inhabitants.

### Nasrallah: No 'Permanent Conciliation' With Israel

*NC1206072695 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah has affirmed that the blood spilled in Lebanon, Palestine, and elsewhere will not be in vain regardless of purported progress in negotiating tracks. He added that no one can impose normalization and conciliation on our people or confiscate the will of this nation, regardless of the coming challenges. Nasrallah was speaking on the first anniversary of the 'Ayn Kawkab martyrs and on the anniversary marking the passage of 40 days since the martyrdom of hero [suicide bomber] Salah Ghandur.

[Begin Nasrallah recording] Do not worry about the future at all. Do not be afraid of the tracks, of a settlement, or of normalization. There is something that concerns the nature of the Jews: their aggressive nature, their racist nature, and their corrupt and corrupting nature. God Almighty, the creator of all mankind, knows better what is a Jew. He tells us about these Jews, that they are killers and criminals, that they are treacherous and corrupt, and that "they have sold the signs of God for a miserable price." [Koranic verse] They have sold the signs of God for a miserable price, so what about the agreements they have signed with 'Arafat, King Husayn, and others? No one in the world can impose on our region and on our people a normalization and a permanent conciliation [sulh mustammir] with the Jews. No one can sequester this nation's resolve to struggle; to restore the holy places; and to fight injustice, oppression, and vice. Israel is the symbol of injustice, oppression, and vice in this region. [end recording]

## Christopher: Military Talks To Resume 27 Jun

*JN1006152495 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Following his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher today left Damascus for Tel Aviv.

Following the talks, he announced that the military talks between Syria and Israel will be resumed in Washington on 27 June.

Presidential Spokesman Jubran Kuriyah has confirmed what Christopher said on the resumption of military contacts with Israel on that date. However, Kuriyah did not speak about the rank of the military personnel who will participate in the Washington meeting.

## Says 'Difficult Issues' Remain

*JN1006185895 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] At 1130 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received at the people's palace U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and his accompanying delegation. [passage omitted]

Before leaving Damascus, Christopher made a statement to the press in which he said: I had more than three hours of talks with President Hafiz al-Asad.

[Begin Christopher recording, in English] I had a very productive three-hour long meeting with President al-Asad. We have agreed on a series of very constructive steps in connection with the security issue. Both Prime Minister Rabin and President al-Asad will send their top security person, that is, their chief of staff to Washington for a meeting starting on the 27th of December [month as heard] to discuss the security issues. I have always thought they were the most important and difficult issues. So, today was a very important step forward. In addition to that, the ambassadors will continue to discuss the non-security issues in Washington. So, although there are many difficult issues ahead, the road ahead is filled with difficult issues, I think we have taken a very important step forward. President al-Asad assured me again of a strategic commitment to seek peace. I think we all understand that 1995 is a critical year because of the electoral calendar. We realize that progress needs to be made this year toward the goal that I think both the prime minister in Israel and the president here seek, that is, a secure and lasting peace between the two countries. Thank you very much. [end recording] [passage omitted]

## Ross To Visit Region in Jul

*JN1006201795 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1815 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] At 1130 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received at the People's Palace U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and his accompanying delegation. [passage omitted]

In a statement to U.S. journalists accompanying him before leaving Damascus, Christopher said that he and President Hafiz al-Asad had a productive meeting, lasting nearly three hours. [passage omitted]

Christopher said that on 27 June, the Syrian and Israeli chiefs of staff will leave for Washington to have bilateral talks and continue the talks the general coordinator of the Middle East peace process held on the security arrangements in the region. He said two weeks after these talks, the United States will send Dennis Ross to the region to discuss the next steps.

Christopher stressed that the two parties are determined to reach peace, and said: In light of the experience I have had since my visit to the region last March, and the framework that was concluded, I can say that the progress on this track will not be easy, but progress can be made through flexibility and determination.

## Radio Cites U.S. Remarks on Meeting

*JN1106125795 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington — U.S. State Department Spokesman Nicholas Burns has stated that Secretary Warren Christopher is satisfied with the outcome of his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad which he said was fruitful.

In statements to BBC radio today, Burns cautioned against expectations of a speedy settlement because the issues outstanding between Syria and Israel are complicated. He noted that several difficulties still exist between them.

Burns said that President al-Asad and Christopher agreed during their three-hour meeting that military officials from both sides would meet in Washington under the auspices of the United States on 27 June. He said his country is satisfied with this step. Burns said the U.S. special coordinator of the peace process will return once again to the region.

Meanwhile, a Middle East expert, William Quant, has said that there is a U.S interest in encouraging the peace process and that Secretary Christopher has devoted great time and effort to ensure the success of this process.

In statements to the same radio, Quant said the statements made by Syrian and Israeli officials confirm that the two parties have a desire to achieve peace and this was an important thing.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said the United States considers Syria the key to peace in the entire region.

Israel radio cited Peres as saying that the start of negotiations between military officials from both parties at the end of this month is a positive sign despite the fact that the two sides still differ on several other issues.

### Upcoming Military Meeting Hailed as New Opportunity

*JN1206062395 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0450 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] Under the headline "A New Opportunity," TISHRIN says: The decision made following U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to Damascus — to hold a meeting of military officials in Washington in the end of this month — once again confirms Syria's concern about just peace. The decision also shows Syria is seriously working to give the peace process another opportunity to succeed.

TISHRIN asserts that Syria, which is concerned about peace, has made tremendous efforts to make the peace process succeed. This process was launched in Madrid about three and a half years ago. In fact, Syria is the one that opened the door to the peace efforts when it agreed to the U.S. initiative then and took constructive stands throughout the rounds of negotiations in Washington. Syria has also drawn the features of the road that will lead to a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The paper adds: Syria has adhered to another factor to make real peace, which is the guarantee of equal [mutasawi] and equitable [mutakafi'] security. All agreements and treaties will remain likely to collapse if the Arabs feel that their security is not guaranteed and that the threat of aggression, expansion, and hegemony is still looming on the horizon. Therefore, to prevent this, Syria has linked full withdrawal to the need for security arrangements that guarantee everybody's security.

TISHRIN cites the statement made by Yitzhaq Rabin, head of the Israeli Government, immediately following his meeting with Christopher, in which Rabin said Tel Aviv wants full normalization of ties with Syria in return for a very limited withdrawal on the Golan Heights. Such a position means that Israel is once again maneuvering and creating obstacles in advance to any possible success in the Washington meeting. This also means that Israel is jeopardizing the peace efforts made by the international community over the past years.

The paper adds: It is common knowledge that Syria has proposed the principle of full peace in return for full withdrawal. Syria will accept nothing short of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Golan to the 4 June 1967 borders. It will also not bargain over its national security.

TISHRIN concludes: Peace will not be achieved unless Israel withdraws to the 4 June 1967 lines from the Golan and southern Lebanon and the rest of the occupied territories, agrees to equal, equitable, and symmetrical [mutanazirah] security arrangements, and completely abandons its tendency toward hegemony, control, and aggression in the region. Israel's acceptance of these requirements will build the foundations of true peace that restores usurped rights and preserves dignity.

In its commentary, AL-BA'TH says: What has been achieved on the path of true peace is waiting for true progress. It is waiting for actions and implementation of the framework of understanding. Nothing can have a meaning or can be achieved without full withdrawal from the Golan to the 4 June 1967 lines.

AL-BA'TH adds: What has happened is a step that could be followed by other steps if Israel complies with the requirements and terms of the peace process. The resolutions of international legitimacy must be implemented. Certainly, other steps will be taken until we reach true peace, which President Hafiz al-Asad emphasized the day before yesterday when he said: Syria has always worked for a peace that guarantees the interests of all parties and that is in line with the conviction of our people.

AL-BA'TH points out that if Israel continues to pursue a policy of maneuvering, procrastination, and circumvention of the resolutions of international legitimacy and the land-for-peace principle, then this will take us back to square one, as if nothing has happened. Thus, Israel will bear full responsibility for this, especially since Syria has offered everything possible to achieve a just and comprehensive peace.

The paper concludes: The military experts will meet on 27 June. The results of this meeting will determine many things. Consequently, the step that has been taken could either be reinforced by taking new steps that will advance the peace process, or things may return to square one, and thus Israel will have passed up an opportunity on which much hope is pinned.

## Papers View Christopher Visit, Peace Process

*JN1106064195 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] TISHRIN comments on the U.S. secretary of state's meetings. It says that during his talks with Warren Christopher, President al-Asad stressed that Syria has always endeavored to achieve a peace that guarantees the interests of the parties and is in harmony with our people's convictions. The paper adds that Mr. Christopher described his talks with the president as very productive. He said that Syria is committed to seeking peace.

TISHRIN reaffirms that Syria's stands are built on logical foundations based on full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan to the 4 June 1967 lines. The paper says that for peace to hold it must guarantee the interests of all parties and restore rights to their owners. Peace must be just and comprehensive and must remove the occupation and end injustice.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: For Syria, peace has always been and will continue to be a strategic option to restore the territory and rights and create new prospects of regional stability and prosperity.

AL-THAWRAH says that the commitment to implementing the security arrangements understanding places the ball again in the Israeli court. The Israeli officials are required to prove their good intentions through deeds rather than words, especially after their recognition that the Golan is Syrian territory, that it must return to its owners, and that peace is impossible without giving back the Golan.

AL-THAWRAH adds that the role of the Israeli political and media rhetoric in building for the required progress in the peace process cannot be effective without translating words into deeds, for peace needs a decisive decision by the Israeli side so that steps forward can be taken with definite confidence and optimism. The paper says that the optimistic talk about arriving at practical steps to achieve peace this year will be nothing but wishful thinking unless Israel offers what is required from it in terms of full withdrawal from the Golan and southern Lebanon. The paper adds: As President al-Asad stressed during his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Syria has always worked for a peace that guarantees the interests of the parties and is in harmony with the convictions of our people.

Concluding, AL-THAWRAH says: Procrastination is no longer acceptable because the way has been cleared for whoever wants to achieve a just, comprehensive peace that guarantees all parties' security and interests.

## Christopher Must Find 'Appropriate Means' With Israel

*JN1006070195 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0450 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] Under the headline "Total Withdrawal Key to Peace," TISHRIN comments on the Middle East peace process, asserting that it is high time Israel made decisive decisions on full withdrawal to the 4 June lines, since this is the key to peace and without it peace remains a plan on paper.

The paper adds: Over the past few days, we have heard many Israeli hints at withdrawal. These remain only hints, if they do not materialize in a clear and unequivocal stand and an actual change in Israel's previous policy. No one should forget that the Golan is cherished by every Syrian citizen and that no one in Syria would cede an inch of its soil.

TISHRIN says: The Israeli officials keep repeating on every occasion that security is Israel's major concern. A firm, just, and comprehensive peace is the best guarantee of security. There can be no security without peace. Just as Israel is concerned about its security, Syria wants to restore its land and maintain its security. There is no doubt that Israel's full withdrawal from the Golan will give a strong push to the peace process and open the doors of the region to a comprehensive peace.

The paper concludes: While receiving Christopher today, Syria is eager to make the peace process succeed and find a just and comprehensive solution to the entire Arab-Israeli conflict. The international community has paid tribute to Syria's seriousness. Only a few days ago, President Clinton expressed his conviction about Syria's true peace intentions. Syria wants to restore its territory and expects from Israel an explicit commitment to full withdrawal and measures to return the entire Golan Heights. Peace is manifested in actions, not words.

In a commentary on the peace process, AL-THAWRAH also asserts that there can be no real peace before full withdrawal is achieved. The paper asks Israel to recognize the principles on which this process was launched. These principles were stated in the U.S. initiative on whose basis the Madrid conference was held; namely, Resolutions 242, 338, and 425, the land-for-peace principle, and Israel's commitment to the requirements of this peace, primarily full withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, especially the Golan and southern Lebanon.

AL-THAWRAH adds: Observers and others who are concerned about the peace process were not surprised by the statement of U.S. Secretary of State Christopher upon his arrival in the region, in which he recognized the existence of noticeable gaps between the Syrian and Israeli stands toward the peace process. Observers say bridging these gaps requires tremendous efforts because they know that Israel is still maneuvering and evading commitment to the principles and requirements of this process. Syria, on the other hand, is serious and is committed to finding a just and comprehensive solution to the crisis in the region — a solution that restores the usurped rights and the occupied territory in full to its Arab owners.

The paper adds: In order for the U.S. secretary of state to be able to boost what he characterized as progress in the Syrian-Israeli negotiations for the first time since the Madrid conference, he must find the appropriate means to make Israel comply with the requirements of a just and comprehensive peace, primarily its full withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, particularly the Golan and southern Lebanon, and return to the 4 June 1967 lines. This way, it will be possible to set up the balanced [mutawazinah] and equal [mutasawiyah] security arrangements that are proposed on both sides of these lines. No true peace can precede full withdrawal.

### Radio Calls U.S. Efforts 'Step in Right Direction'

*JN1106144695 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gentlemen: This is not the first time that Syria has underlined its adherence to the choice of peace and its determination to achieve it in a manner that guarantees the interests of all parties and agrees with the convictions of our people in Syria and the Arab homeland. Syria has chosen and advocated peace even while it was defending itself, land, and rights. Syria also pledged to work for the sake of a just and comprehensive peace before the dramatic, and still changeable, events which the world has seen. At the same time, it refused to bargain over a grain of soil or any right. Consequently, the Syrian attitude toward the facts of the conflict — which dictate that the continuation of occupation runs counter to peace — has been marked by credibility, clarity, and firmness. This attitude is supported by international legitimacy, the resolutions of the world community, and Arab and world public opinion.

Now that an opportunity is at sight and that the international efforts, particularly those exerted by President Clinton's administration and secretary of state, achieved a step in the right direction, what has been achieved must be sincerely protected and fortified. Also, what has been achieved must serve as the basis for what may be achieved in the future within an integrated, homogeneous framework that would lead to a real peace that guarantees the interests of the parties and is in harmony with the convictions of our people in Syria and the Arab homeland.

When the Israelis make old and rejected statements on the possibility of achieving peace while keeping even a single inch of land, they deliberate evade what has been achieved. They also hamper the sought-after progress, especially after the announcement that was made on the meeting of the Syrian and Israeli chiefs of staff to continue discussion of the details concerning the equitable [mutakafi'ah] security arrangements under the auspices, and with the participation of the U.S. Administration.

As such results were achieved, Rabin was making statements in which he called for achieving what he termed a real peace with very limited withdrawal from the Golan Heights, as he put it. This constitutes an evasion of the efforts, which have been going on for over three and a half years, and which were exerted by all states in the world, particularly the U.S. Administration. It also constitutes a deliberate obstruction of steps that have to be taken to build a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

We stress time and again that peace cannot see light unless Israel is committed to complete withdrawal from the territory to the 4 June 1967 borderline and from southern Lebanon. Otherwise, time and effort will be wasted and the facts, without which peace cannot be realized, will be annulled. Peace is right, defending peace is right, and adherence to right is a path we pursue and never deviate from regardless of all circumstances. Real peace is in the interest of all parties. It will also guarantee the security and stability of all parties.

### Commentary Urges 'Total Withdrawal' for Total Peace

*JN1006154295 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear listeners: Amid the current atmosphere of optimism concerning the peace process, U.S. diplomacy is stepping up its efforts to achieve real and tangible progress, particularly on the Syrian and the Lebanese tracks. The doyen of U.S. diplomacy, Warren Christopher, has arrived in Damascus as part of his current tour, which coincides with that of Dennis Ross, U.S. coordinator of the peace process, in terms of timing, effort, and objective. Determined work is, therefore, under way to turn the Syrian-Israeli understanding on the principles of security arrangements into a tangible reality by applying the rules of equality [musawah], equitability [takafu'], parallelism [tawazi], and balance [tawazun] on both sides of the 4 June, 1967, borders.

Syria has warmly welcomed Ross, as well as U.S. efforts, to reach a just and comprehensive peace based on Security Council resolutions and the principle of land for peace. As it has always done, Syria will honestly cooperate with Christopher to enable him to attain the goal of the peace process.

Syria's postion proceeds from a firm strategy to achieve a just and comprehensive peace to regain its occupied land and its usurped national and pan-Arab rights. It has also been working in accordance with this strategy and in harmony with the desire of the international community, the resolutions of the international legitimacy, and within the framework of the Madrid conference, which will guarantee the goal of the peace process.

There is no doubt that the United States believes Syria is taking an honest stand and is eager to see a true peace, which can regain all lands and rights, which can preserve dignity, and which can entrench national and pan-Arab sovereignty. The United States, through its senior officials headed by President Bill Clinton, has voiced its trust in Syria's honest positions and its eagerness to make U.S. efforts successful. It also made, through President Clinton, a positive assessment of the commitment of Syria and President Hafiz al-Asad to advancing the peace process in accordance with its original bases.

It is natural here to stress that the success of the current persistent U.S. efforts depends, as it has always, on the extent of Israel's readiness to meet peace requirements, foremost of which is total withdrawal to the 4 June, 1967, lines. Success of all aspects of the peace process is possible only if this particular point is met because land has always been the core of the conflict. Therefore, the return of the lands to their owners will be the basis for any just, comprehensive, and lasting solution.

Syria, which has responded to international legitimacy and the U.S. initiative, will not change its positions or relinquish its national and pan-Arab principles toward land, right, and dignity. Syria has declared peace as its strategic option in line with the people's desire, and said that the nation's interests lie in liberating the land and regaining the rights. It also stressed that this option will produce security and stability in the region under the canopy of peace, which, in itself, will benefit everyone in the region and the world.

Hence, good preparations to revive the Syrian-Israeli talks on the experts level and with U.S. participation may guarantee future efforts to apply the points of agreement to the principles of security arrangements and to meet the peace requirements in accordance with the rules of total peace for total withdrawal. This rule will remain a test of Israel's intentions, options, and decision. Unless involved parties decide to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in accordance with Security Council resolutions and the principle of land for peace, they will miss a historic opportunity for achieving peace, to which all doors will be open only if Israel is honest in its intentions.

## Afghanistan

### Minister Meets UN Officials, Urges Peace Efforts

*LD0706173595 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 7 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Esteemed Dr. Najibollah Lafra'i, minister of state for foreign affairs, met this morning in his office with Mr. France Oklow, director of the UN secretary general's office in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and Mr. Asabek Abu-Nafisa, adviser in the above office.

Talking about the country's recent political-military developments, Dr. Lafra'i expressed hope that the UN peace-seeking efforts will be further accelerated so that animosity is ended and a durable peace can be returned to our country.

### Minister Addresses Dostam, Taleban, Iranian Ties

*LD1006181695 Tehran IRNA in English 1746 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kabul, June 10, IRNA — Afghan Government is trying to make peace with all parties through negotiations and Friday [9 June] agreement with Talebans took place in line with it, head of Afghan Foreign Ministry said here today.

Minister of foreign affairs and head of Afghan Foreign Ministry [title as received], Najibollah Lafra'i here Saturday in an interview IRNA reporter said that President Borhanoddin Rabbani's government has maintained negotations with different groups and is ready to talk with different factions.

Regarding the failure of talks with the leader of Afghan Islamic National Movement, General 'Abdol Rashid Dostam which took place in Uzbekistan's capital, he said General Dostam's forces by taking advantage of the atmosphere of negotiations, launched series of attacks which lessened the possibility of peace and mutual confidence.

In line with Talebans, Lafra'i without mentioning name of a paticular country said, "There is no doubt the group has links with foreign countries, but regarding current developments and the strenghtening of government's power, we hope they realize their mistake and help to restore peace in Afghanistan. [quotation marks as received]

Regarding the summit of Afghan jihadi leaders in Jalalabad which have been suspended, he said that the goals and motives of the summit have not been elaborated for the government.

In line with Afghanistan's reconstruction and presentation of international aid in the area, he said Afghan Government despite relying on its resources, is in need of international help and has renewed its request.

Calling on U.N. special envoy in Afghanistan affairs, Mahmud Mestiri to pay a visit to Kabul and resume his activities restoring peace in Afghanistan, he said the situation is more ripe for restoring peace than any other time.

Lafra'i further praised Iran and Pakistan for the hospitality they rendered to Afghan refugees during the past 15 years and expressed hope that refugees' return process would be carried out successfully.

As for Tehran-Kabul relations, he termed it very friendly and very close and voiced hope for further economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

During his upcoming visit to Tehran Lafra'i is due to talk with Iranian officials on scientific cooperation.

### Official Accuses U.N. Mission of Backing Taleban

*LD1006095895 Tehran IRNA in English 0840 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kabul, June 10, IRNA — President Borhanoddin Rabbani's government in Afghanistan accused the U.N. mission of having supported the Taleban group in previous round of peace negotiations.

Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abdol Rahim Ghafourzi, maintained in an interview that head of the U.N. special mission on Afghanistan Mahmud Mestiri had supported the Taleban when the group, following a suddent attack, positioned near Kabul.

The Afghan official said the U.N. envoy, neglecting the main reason for the formation of Taleban group and the issue of foreign interference as the main cause of current clashes, has wrongly named the Taleban as a nationalist group.

While admitting good-will of the U.N. envoy, the Afghan official criticized his speech made at the U.N. session in Stokholm in which he described the Rabbani government as the cause for the failure of peace talks.

Mestiri had reportedly told the Stokholm session, held 1-2 June, that Rabbani government is an illegal Tajik-dominated body which is defied by Pashtus, Hazarehs, and Uzbeks.

The Afghan deputy foreign minister hailed support extended by Iran, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to his country.

As for the Russian role, the official said the Afghan Government would welcome well-intentioned efforts of Russia to create an atmosphere of understanding between the Rabbani government and the National Islamic Movement of Afghanistan led by Abdor Rashid Dostam.

A delegation of the Commonwealth of independent States is currently in Kabul.

### Radio Criticizes UN Envoy Mestiri's Remarks

*LD1106204995 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[Commentary by BIA political commentator]

[FBIS Translated Text] On the basis of its peaceful policy, the Islamic State of Afghanistan has always emphasized that problems and hostilities should be resolved through talks and has welcomed any effort that would lead to the solution of matters. On the basis of this principle, the Islamic State of Afghanistan has shown the necessary readiness to cooperate with UN efforts aimed at resolving and removing the problems concerning Afghanistan and has warmly welcomed Mr. Mahmud Mestiri's mission.

The leadership of the Islamic State, especially esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, has personally agreed with [word indistinct] and has declared his readiness to relinquish power many times. What the leadership of the Islamic State has emphasized more and has presented as a fundamental condition is the drafting of a mechanism that is acceptable to all sides. Otherwise, Rabbani's stepping down will not only be ineffective to ensure peace in Afghanistan but also will lead to the intensification of the situation.

Besides being unable to take effective steps to bring the Islamic State closer to its opponents as was expected, Mestiri witnessed the emergence of a new group called Taleban. The Islamic State expressed its readiness to accept the mechanism Mestiri proposed, in which the election of provincial representatives, the formation of a council, and the setting up of a transitional government were envisaged. The proposal could not be put into practice, however, due to the nonparticipation of Taleban in the implementation of the mechanism. With recent developments and the driving out of the opponents from Kabul and the restoration of security in the capital, some changes must be made in the mechanism, because some groups have suffered heavy political blows on top of losing military positions. Therefore, their positions should also be reviewed.

The new situation that has come about as a result of the success of the state in the capital, the sidestepping of some groups, and the emergence of a new one put Mestiri in an indecisive position. Although the talks were continued in a disoriented manner, the changing of the situation prevented any progress in Mestiri's mission. The opponents of the Islamic State of Afghanistan also failed to introduce a sensible proposal in the mechanism. Thereby, Mestiri's mission faced a new stalemate.

What has dismayed the people and the Islamic State of Afghanistan are Mestiri's recent remarks. He has ignored all of the peace-seeking intentions of the Islamic State and has acted as if the Islamic State is controlled by only one ethnic group and that the other nationalities have no part in it. Or, in his opinion, the Islamic State is clinging to power illegally. By the same token, Mestiri has ignored the Islamic Army, which fights against foreign conspiracies in order to defend the independence and Islamic sovereignty in the country, and has proposed the formation of a national security force. Certainly, if Mestiri had paid some attention to the formation of the Islamic Army and the Government of the Islamic State, he would have realized that the Islamic state is made of different Afghan nationalities and tribes. Similarly, no single group can call itself the representative of a certain tribe or nationality with the backing of aliens. Once again, the peace- seeking stance of the Islamic State is clear. It wants Mestiri not to spare humanitarian efforts to achieve peace in our country. The people of Afghanistan also defend any measures that ensure national unity and bring about an atmosphere of fraternity among the Afghan tribes.

### Kabul, Taleban Agree on Cease-Fire, POW Release

*LD0906171495 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] In accordance with the peace-seeking policy of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, and on the basis of its determination to resolve issues through talks, indirect talks were held in Lowgar Province today between representatives of the Islamic State of Afghanistan and of the Taleban group.

Agreements were reached on opening roads, the continuation of a 10-day cease-fire, the continuation of indirect and direct talks in Kabul city, and on the release of prisoners-of-war.

A BAKHTAR correspondent learned that the talks were held under the mediation of Mowlana Mohammad Khan Sher Ali, a personality of the Jamaat ol-Ulema of Pakistan. It was agreed that the talks will be continued in a direct form.

### Kabul Releases Taleban POW's in 'Goodwill Gesture'

*LD1106174295 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] As a goodwill gesture by the Islamic State of Afghanistan, six Taleban members who were captured in fighting and have been prisoners of the Islamic State of Afghanistan have unilaterally been handed over today to a delegation of Jamiatul Ulema of Pakistan in the presence of domestic and foreign journalists.

### Government, Taleban Talks To Begin in Kabul

*LD1106174195 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Direct talks between the representatives of Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani and the Taleban group will start tomorrow in Kabul. Two six-man groups will have talks to resolve their disagreement.

Sadeq Chakari, minister of tribal affairs of Afghanistan and head of the delegation representing Rabbani's side in the talks with the Taleban group, said that the group had changed their minds about their past preconditions that the jihadi groups should be disarmed. They are negotiating with the government on achieving peace in Afghanistan.

### Government Forces Repulse Dostam Militia Attack

*LD1006180195 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A large-scale offensive by Dostam's militia was foiled today in two directions, with the militia sustaining the heaviest loss of life.

Reports received by BAKHTAR say that the forces of the Islamic Army of Afghanistan today foiled an offensive by heavily-armed Dostam militiamen near Khenjan. The Islamic Army imposed on the enemy heavy losses.

Today's militia offensive, commanded by Dostam himself, was launched after a series of recent defeats in Konduz, Baghlan, and Samangan Provinces.

In the course of today's offensive, dozens of militiamen were killed. Most of the enemy's dead remain at the front line. Three enemy tanks were destroyed and one other was captured by the soldiers of Islam. Personnel of No. 35 Salang Jehadi Division played a major role in foiling the offensive. [passage omitted]

According to another report, another militia offensive was foiled last night in the Aliabad district of Konduz Province. Six militiamen were killed and another five captured. An enemy tank was also destroyed.

### 'Intense' Fighting in Khenjan

*LD1106075795 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Fighting continues between the forces of the Afghan northern national movement and the government. According to a report by the Central News Unit from Kabul, there were intense clashes yesterday in Baghlan and Konduz provinces between the forces of General Dostam, leader of the National Movement in northern Afghanistan, and supporters of President Borhanoddin Rabbani. According to the same report, the heaviest fighting took place in Khenjan and Aliabad areas. Khenjan area is important because of its proximity to the strategic Salang tunnel.

Another report indicates that Kabul has once again accused Uzbekistan of forging money in order to assist General Dostam's forces. Last week the Afghan Government accused Uzbekistan of giving financial and military assistance to General Dostam.

## India

### Rao Interviewed on Ties With Iran, World Policies

*NC1206090695 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 31 May 95 pp 1, 12*

["Text" of interview with Prime Minister Narasimha Rao by ETTELA'AT INTERNATIONAL's Jamileh Kadivar in New Delhi; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Kadivar] Apparently, Iranian-Indian political and economic relations have not expanded as much as they can. What is your excellency's opinion on this?

[Rao] Our relations have always been strong from the cultural point of view, and both countries have many things in common. My past experience — my recent visit to your country — has proven that if we look at history, we can see many common cultural points. Nevertheless, I believe that we have not profoundly studied our potential for economic cooperation.

Projects have been examined during the past decade and we have had some economic cooperation.

But at that time, the systems in both countries did not allow more extensive cooperation in this field.

We had the rule of the public sector in India, and each step had to be taken by the government and needed money.

We have technology and manpower. But the main problem is what both you and we lack. We lack money.

The policy of economic regulation in the past four years has been beneficial, and with the implementation of this program we are able to expand our economic cooperation even further.

During this period, we have taken new initiatives such as acquiring monetary resources and foreign investment. Now the grounds for economic cooperation are clear and ready.

Both countries have many resources and are able to exploit these resources; and now there is the possibility of investing in and exploiting these resources.

This is a different and new issue which we should carefully study. Related to this, joint commissions that will delineate the framework of programs should be formed. Of course, I am not saying that this is a simple issue. But this is a political wish on both sides and also of interest to me. We should be very sensitive and alert in this field, and I believe that this is possible.

[Kadivar] Ten years ago I visited India and I think that many things have changed while many things have not changed in India during this period.

At a quick overall glance, I can say that some of the values are being directed more toward Western values. But what has not changed so far is the tragic situation of the Muslims in India, who continue to live under extremely bad conditions. What is your opinion of this and what decisions has your government adopted in relation to this?

To put it more clearly, what have you done to confront the West's cultural onslaught, and what steps have you taken to improve the situation of the Muslims in India?

[Rao] I think that you are speaking from your personal point of view.

The truth is that India has never deviated from its national heritage, its laws, its customs, and its religion and it is strongly devoted to all these. We have always had and will continue to have deep roots in our culture.

You can see numerous mosques and shrines in India and you can also see that we have a growing number of pilgrims. This is not new.

It is not as though Indian society has absorbed the Western way of life and thought. India has modern technology and we have also progressed in the field of industry.

We in India can see the special characteristics of modernization in India. This is a type of modernization which you can also see in many of the developing countries. Nevertheless, we continue to have our ties to our traditions. We are an extremely powerful country.

What I would like to say about the Muslims and the Muslims' mosques in India is that there is poverty among all the religious sects in India, be they Muslim, Hindu, Christian, or other.

There is no difference among them from the economic point of view. Nevertheless, although the Muslims comprise the minority, they still are a large group in terms of numbers. If [you] take a look at the various societies in India, you will see no difference between Muslims, Hindus, and Christians. Poverty can be seen throughout India. [passage omitted]

When Hindu, Muslim, and Christian farmers are working next to each other in the fields, I actually can't tell which one is a Hindu, a Muslim, or a Christian. Our problem is the widespread poverty in India.

I prefer my friends to try to look at the situation in India not from a religious aspect, but in general.

[Kadivar] As you have said, poverty is one of the major problems of a large part of the Indian population. But we can see that Muslims, in general, are the ones who suffer most in India. It is not only economic poverty that they face, but problems in various other aspects such as the social and political aspects in India. They have less access to job opportunities. How can you justify this situation in view of the fact that Indian law is based on secularism?

[Rao] We do not consider poverty to belong to a specific religious group in India. Poverty goes beyond a specific religion and race. Our effort in India is to rid the entire country of poverty without having one specific religion or region in mind. Actually, we have tried particularly hard on behalf of minorities, and especially Muslims, to enjoy more benefits in the fields of education, vocational training, and so on, and to suffer less from unemployment. We have also scored noteworthy successes in this, and all the various sectors in Indian society are benefiting from the results of these efforts.

[Kadivar] Presently we are witnessing the spread of a type of extremist Hinduism in the country at a time when the founders of new India supported a type of secularism in the Indian sense and considered this to be the best factor for stability in India.

In your excellency's opinion, what are the factors that are fanning the flames of this extremism in the Indian society?

[Rao] I am extremely confident that the Indian Constitution ensures a life pattern for each and every member of the Indian nation. There is no way in which we can discriminate between a Hindu, a Sikh, a Buddhist, or other. All of them are equal. The main issue is that we have one country and one nation and all the religions in this country are free.

You may ask me whether we have become Westernized. If we were Westernized, then you would not see any type of Hindu or Islamic extremism here.

We have not become Westernized in our religious inclinations. We have not become Westernized in our behavior. I think that this is not something exclusive only to India. What has happened to the Muslims, the Hindus, and other religions is that a new zeal and enthusiasm has emerged for religion in India. This is a new zeal, a new belief—the same thing that you refer to as "new enthusiasm." [passage omitted]

Such clashes over interests may take place between Muslims and non-Muslims, between Muslims and Christians, or between Sikhs and non-Sikhs. Therefore, these two issues should not be mixed up.

In the same way that some extremism may be seen in the Hindu religion, the fanaticism of some Muslims too may fan the flames of this issue. There is no correct and true interpretation of the situation. But I know that such clashes have existed for hundreds of years. [passage omitted]

[Kadivar] What is your solution to the Kashmiri problem? From your point of view, what are the obstacles that are preventing a solution?

[Rao] Jammu and Kashmir are inseparable parts of Indian territory. But one part of it is being illegally held by Pakistan. Pakistan pursues its aggressive policy and supports and encourages terrorism in that province. We have asked Pakistan to behave cautiously and have asked for bilateral talks for a solution to the problem. Pakistan's repeated interference in Jammu and Kashmir and its support for violence continues. In tandem, we have started our efforts to revive a political process and to hold elections. The people in Jammu and Kashmir have suffered heavily from terrorism and deserve peace and tranquility, as well as the possibility to improve their life. I hope that Pakistan will act wisely and will agree to talks with us within the framework of the Simla Pact.

[Kadivar] It is almost two years now since the destruction of Babri Mosque by Hindu extremists. What is the outcome of the investigations concerning this case?

[Rao] The Babri Mosque-Ram Temple case is being studied in court. The Indian Government is acting as a trustee of this property and this property will be handed to the legal heir as per the court's decision.

[Kadivar] What role do you think India will play in the new world order?

[Rao] India has always pursued a policy of promoting world peace and welfare, and within this context, it has worked toward a just international economic system as well as toward the democratization of international relations and of international organizations. The end of the Cold War has created special opportunities for progress in international contacts. The objective behind our global efforts is to erase the inequalities among the peoples of the world and to fulfill the logical wishes of the peoples in developing countries. Our efforts are aimed at creating better living conditions for all peoples.

India's democratic experiences show that democracy does not clash with progress. Our experiences have also proven wrong the theory that democracy is not suitable in the initial stages for developing countries. Democracy breeds manpower, and this is what we are after in India. On the international level, we believe that the democratization of international relations among all countries—both big and small, both poor and rich—creates possibilities for partnership in world peace and welfare.

Currently, we are pursuing a policy of liberating and globalizing our economy and we are stressing the need to invest in social fields and for the welfare of the poor. We want to do the same on a global level in order to ensure a better world for generations to come.

[Kadivar] Most of the members of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] are expressing discontent over the movement's role in the solution of international problems. What is India's opinion on this, and, basically, what can you do to strengthen this movement?

[Rao] With the end of the Cold War, the NAM has acquired a special credibility. Our concentration has shifted from doing away with colonies, the issue of emigration, and the fight against racism to issues such as creating a more just global system. With the end of the Cold War, we are facing some threats, and international terrorism is threatening world stability. Apart from all this, we have the sectarian and fundamentalist clashes. Threats against countries that want to choose their way of achieving their own social and economic progress have not diminished. The NAM creates a tribune which the developing countries can use to express, to examine, and to solve their problems, without any ideological antilogies and also to prepare a global program for the establishment of true freedom in order to advance social-economic growth with each others' help. As developing countries, we are all interested in the expansion of peace and stability in the world. We also have a concordance of views on the need to improve the economic atmosphere and trade contacts. We believe that unity and efforts to achieve the NAM's objectives can help to further strengthen this movement in the world.

[Kadivar] How do you see Indian-Chinese relations in the new world order in view of the absence of traditional-geographic-political concurrence between the two? Basically speaking, what is your opinion on the creation of a powerful Asian bloc?

[Rao] Our relations with China are improving and have acquired a political and economic form and meaning. Mutual respect and understanding form the basis of these relations. Both countries are mature enough to face the points on which they disagree. Our high-level political talks with China and the improvement of relations between the two countries have created an atmosphere in which complicated problems can be discussed with a spirit of understanding and logic. The potential for cooperation between India and China is clear.

### Daily Views Military Exercises With U.S. Forces

*BK1006151395 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 10 Jun 95 p 12*

[Editorial: "Strategic Move"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The exercises between Indian and American armed forces have understandably evoked mixed feelings among both service personnel and the public in this country. The history of three decades of often tension-prone relations between the two countries still weighs down on the consciousness of people and this is more so in respect of matters relating to national security. Though at the leadership level there has been a conscious effort to improve defence relations between the two countries in the aftermath of the cold war, there have not been adequate attempts in either country to spell out the mutuality of advantages to both sides from conducting joint exercises. During his visit, the U.S. defence secretary, Mr William Perry highlighted the need for cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries, especially given that in both countries civilian supremacy over armed forces is an article of faith. At this stage the exercises are more in the nature of getting to know each other than the type the U.S. conducts with its allies. Indians must be clearly made to understand the pros and cons of these exercises, especially in view of apprehensions that the U.S. military establishment may acquire undue influence over our armed forces. Secondly, though this fear has not been articulated, many service personnel feel that information gained in these exercises may be passed on by the Americans to the Pakistanis.

The first fear is totally unfounded. Several of our senior officers, including former chiefs of staffs, have undergone training in U.S. institutions without being influenced in anyway by that country. They had professionally benefited from that training and in turn, passed on their skills to our institutions. As for the second issue, it must be realised that there are standard operation procedures in respect of security of information relating to our equipment and procedures. In fact, dealing with the Americans who have no doubt very sophisticated techniques of gathering intelligence must be seen as a challenge to our own forces to beef up their security. On the other hand, there are considerable benefits to-be gained from holding these joint exercises. The American military establishment is a vital input in American foreign policy and without mutual contacts between the two armed forces India cannot hope to influence this aspect of U.S. policy making. Pakistan has taken full advantage of this situation and the Chinese, too, are beginning to pay increased attention to this, American foreign policy is often led by strategic considerations and consequently India cannot afford to miss out on efforts to influence the U.S. armed forces in our favour. The end of the cold war has provided an opening for this purpose and the opportunities provided by these exercises should be made full use of. From the little experience we have had so far it is obvious that at a professional level the Indian and American service officers are developing healthy mutual respect and a good rapport between the two would be beneficial to both sides.

### Daily: Party Charges Against U.S. 'Ludicrous'

*BK1006160295 Delhi DAINIK JAGRAN in Hindi 9 Jun 95 p 6*

[Editorial: "Ludicrous Charge"]

[FBIS Translated Text] There was a time when the Indian politicians used to brand their political opponents as agents of the U.S. intelligence agency the CIA, or the Soviet Intelligence Service the KGB at the drop of a hat. Of late, however, such charges have ceased. Perhaps the disintegration of the Soviet Union was the main cause of their cessation. Yet, only the symptoms disappeared, not the disease; for this tendency is very much present in Indian politics. The latest evidence to confirm its presence is Mulayam Singh's charge that the fall of his government was engineered by the United States. Not only he but the general secretary of his Samajwadffi Party (SP) has also leveled this charge and has gone to the extent of demanding the return to his country of the U.S. ambassador to India, Frank Wisner. To substantiate the charge, the leader of the SP has underlined the various tactics that the United States has adopted to pressure India to stop the "Prithvi" missile program and sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. It is true that the United States has indulged in such pressure tactics, but whatever could it stand to gain by "engineering the fall" of Mulayam Singh's government? Or contrarily, what did it stand to lose if Mulayam Singh continued to be in power? Do the SP leaders think that their continuance in power might affect Indian defense and foreign policies and was that the reason why the United States hatched a conspiracy to cause the fall of Mulayam Singh's government? This is an absurd charge because defense and foreign affairs are not the concern of a state according to the Indian constitution. Moreover there is not even a remote possibility of the SP forming a government in the Center now or in the near future, nor of its emerging as a powerful political force to endanger U.S. interests in India. Perhaps the SP leaders are ignorant of this reality or have deliberately chosen to remain ignorant that the Indian state governments have no direct dealing with foreign countries. Was it this that led them to seek assistance from the Iranian president to fight against the communal forces when the foreign dignitary happened to visit Lucknow recently?

It is in the context of the alleged U.S. conspiracy to cause the SP government's fall in UP that we want to mention the Enron episode, although there does not seem to be any link between the two. This U.S. company, Enron, is installing a power project, the Dabhal Project, in Maharashtra and as such its success or failure has no bearing whatsoever on the Mulayam Singh's government. It is quite understandable that the United States may feel worried on account of Maharashtra people's opposing the Dabhol power project, but most certainly that worry has not even a remote connection with Mulayam Singh or his government in U.P. How could Mulayam Singh's continuance in power have any effect on the Dabhol power project? As far as the alleged soft attitude of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) towards this project is concerned, it is a known fact the Maharashtra's Shiv-Sena-BJP alliance government is the authority reviewing the entire Dabhol project. Thus, in no way could the SP government's fall in UP have any U.S. connection and the charge leveled by the party leaders is not only irrelevant, but ludicrous — and will fetch them nothing but universal ridicule. It would be much better if they stopped concentrating on self-introspection and analyzed the reason for the mistakes that forced them out of power rather than indulged in leveling such a ludicrous charge.

### Pakistan Said Planning To Send 'Terrorists'

*BK1006132295 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Rajasthan chief minister, Mr. Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, has urged the center to convene a meeting of chief ministers of the border states to discuss measures to check the activities of the Pakistani intelligence agency. He told newsmen in Jaipur today that there are reports that the ISI [Inter Service Intelligence] is planning to send terrorists to infiltrate the country through the border states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Jammu and Kashmir. He said the meeting should discuss appropriate amendments in various acts relating to the border areas.

### Pakistani Troops Fire 3 Rockets at Kashmir Town

*BK1206042795 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistani troops fired three rockets last night on the residential area adjoining the UN office building in the border town of Punch. A journalist, who happens to work for AIR [All India Radio] also, and three members of his family were injured and admitted to hospital. They are out of danger. Their house was damaged in the attack. The people of Punch town held an anti-Pakistan demonstration soon after the rocket attack. Senior civil and Army officers have visited the site. An Army spokesman told our correspondent that the rockets were fired from the (Balangi) post area. Indian Army returned the fire, but nothing is yet known about any casualty across the border. Former minister and senior Congress-I leader, Mr. G.M. Mirpunshi, and leaders of other political parties have condemned the Pakistani action.

In Jammu and kashmir, thousands of Youth Congress-I workers led by its president, Mr. Maninderjit Singh Bitta, held an anti-Pakistan demonstration at Suchetgarh near the India-Pakistan border.

### Anti-Pakistan Demonstrations Held in Kashmir

*BK1106130595 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, thousands of Youth Congress-I workers led by its president, Mr. Maninderjit Singh Bitta, held an anti-Pak demonstration at Suchetgarh near the Indo-Pakistan border. Addressing the rally, the Mr. Bitta said Youth Congress-I will launch a campaign against the anti-national forces in Jammu and Kashmir as it did successfully earlier in Punjab.

Meanwhile, the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr. L.K. Advani, has demanded that all government efforts should concentrate on crushing militancy in the state. Addressing a convention of the Jammu and Kashmir unit of the party in Jammu today, he said there cannot be any reversal of the process of integration of Jammu and Kashmir with the Indian union in the name of more autonomy for the state.

### Five 'Militants' Killed, 16 Arrested in Kashmir

*BK1006160095 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In the Kashmir valley, five militants have been killed and 16 others arrested in different search operations since yesterday evening. An official spokesman said in Srinagar today that four militants were killed in Baramula and one in Kupwara District. A large quantity of arms and ammunition has been recovered.

## Iran

### Majles Speaker Condemns U.S. 'Enmity, Plots'

*LD1106103995 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Majles Speaker Nateq-Nuri addressed the open session of the Majles today on U.S. enmity and plots against the Islamic order of Iran and described the recent wave of hostility by the U.S. Administration and President against Iran as being devoid of rational basis and doomed to failure.

He said the reaction of governments and nations to the U.S. economic sanctions against Iran indicate that the U.S. policy has no chance of success.

Mr. Nateq-Nuri spoke about the demand by some members of Congress that the U.S. Administration take action against the Iranian nation and provide support to the traitor terrorist grouplet [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization — MKO] whose numerous crimes are evident in Iran.

He said: You [Americans] support the traitor terrorists MKO and the state terrorism of the Zionist regime, but you also claim to defend human rights. You imagine that you can fool world public opinion by accusing the Islamic Republic of Iran of violating human rights.

Referring to a climate of fear, terror, corruption, and insecurity which has engulfed U.S. society, he told the U.S. people that they should ask their representatives to deal with corruption within the United States first. [passage omitted]

### Further on Majles Speaker's Remarks

*LD1106133795 Tehran IRNA in English 1317 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA — Majles speaker 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri said here Sunday [11 June] that the U.S. Government is supporting terrorist activities against Iran while its people do not enjoy social security at home.

Speaking at the open session of Majles, he underlined that today the United States is plagued with terror and corruption and that the U.S. Congressmen instead of tackling their internal problems have engaged themselves in sponsoring terrorist acts around the globe.

The U.S. Administation is backing the illegitimate regime of Israel at a time when Zionist forces are massacring Lebanese Muslims every day, he added.

"The crimes the United States is committing today had neven been perpetrated by Genghis, Hitler or other dictators of the world," the Majles speaker said.

Nateq-Nuri further stressed that the heinous crimes being perpetrated by criminal Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina have damaged the prestige of international bodies and organizations supporting the human rights.

"The criminal Serbs take envoys of human rights organizations hostage and take captive NATO forces by international organizations do not let Islamic countries dispatch military forces to defend Muslim people of Bosnia-Herzegovina," the speaker regretted.

He then voiced Islamic states' readiness to support Bosnian Muslims under supervision of the United Nations.

Nateq-Nuri called on the European Union to lift arms embargo imposed upon Bosnia-Herzegovina.

### Daily Notes Worldwide Growth in Anti-U.S. Stance

*LD1106083495 Tehran IRNA in English 0801 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA — The English-language daily KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL Sunday [11 June] editorialized on Washington policy towards the Islamic Republic of Iran and wrote that the ferocious U.S. attitude, a long hostility since the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran, will have no effect on Iran's fundamental Islamic mentality.

Referring to the victorious 1979 Islamic revolution in Iran the daily said, "the upheaval sent shock waves throughout the world" and "overhauled thinking patterns in regions many of which until then knew only three things about our country - Iran-Shah-oil."

It added, "Every new setback in America's Zionist-dictated Iran policy has and will call forth its world-power status and future viability. In short, the number of sovereign states, peoples and governments who take U.S. policy declarations seriously is declining as fast as Washington's credibility at home and abroad."

Pointing to the fast-growing culture of anti-Americanism beyond Islamic frontiers, the daily said these days many people in the world have interestingly come to the conclusion that if America is not confronted with equal determination, Washington will continue to play the bully around the globe.

"As for our people and leadership, the increase in U.S. hostility will not have the slightest effect on our fundamental Islamic structure or divine laws which gave guided millions of Muslims over 14 centuries. And, this is among the primary reasons Islam is the fastest growing religion in the U.S. and Europe, where tons of anti-Islamic literature is churned out every year," the article concluded.

### Radio Views Christopher's Efforts for Peace Process

*NC1206055995 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 12 Jun 95*

[Commentary by News Research and Commentary Group]

[FBIS Translated Text] On the last leg of his Middle East tour, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher stated yesterday that Washington will assist those countries that are helping the Middle East peace process.

Since the Zionist regime has always enjoyed U.S. assistance and receives about $4 billion in aid from the White House, Christopher's comments were mainly aimed at the Arab governments. The objective behind these remarks was to encourage those who had formerly adhered to the peace process or who are in the process of adhering to it.

Political analysts believe that the U.S. Secretary of State's carrot-and-stick policies are a sign of the weak Arab inclination toward the peace process and show the weakness of the foundation on which the compromise is based. The solution to any crisis on an international level should always be based on a profound acquaintance with the solution and by removing the elements that cause it. However, these points have not been taken into consideration in the Middle East peace process. Without being well acquainted with this crisis or ignoring the elements that caused it, the United States is trying to impose a compromise on the region. Although this compromise has found supporters among the Arab governments, it will not be able to continue since it is being rejected by the nations of the region. The experiences of the crusades have proven this. In those wars, although Palestine and part of the eastern Mediterranean were under the occupation of the crusaders for almost two centuries and this reality was recognized by the so-called Islamic governments of those days, the Muslim people of the region did not accept this reality and by liberating Palestine charted a different course for the region.

### TV Sees U.S. Influence 'Gradually Waning'

*LD1006193095 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1650 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[Unattributed commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Japan's rejection yesterday of a U.S. request to participate in trade sanctions against Iran has infuriated Washington officials. Clinton administration officials, expressing dissatisfaction over the recent stance by Tokyo in connection with the Islamic Republic of Iran, confirmed that they have lost hope of Japan participating in moves against the Islamic Republic.

Japan's official opposition to and rejection of U.S. requests were announced at a time when Washington hoped to attract the support of this powerful industrial country in east Asia, Japan, to put pressure on our country before the G-7 summit in Halifax, Canada. But, because of Japan's decisiveness in rejecting the U.S. request, those efforts met with defeat, a defeat which has strongly attracted the attention of politico-international circles.

Earlier, many important states, including China, Russia, and European countries had rejected U.S. requests to end their economic cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran. Repeated statements by Russian officials on the need to continue their cooperation with Tehran, and the interest shown by Beijing and other Asian states to participate in joint industrial projects in Iran, plus Japan's ignoring U.S. President Bill Clinton's request, are issues which are deemed noteworthy in the policies of those governments regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The position taken by Tokyo and, before that, Beijing and Moscow, regarding Iran, is partly related to the extensive and growing dissatisfaction of those states with the U.S.'s indiscriminate intervention in world issues and their political and commercial disputes. What must not be ignored is that these states believe that cooperation with Islamic Iran is not only necessary for safeguarding international peace and security, while mutual interests can also be maintained by expanding those relations. In other words, they fully realize international circumstances and the fact that they should not relate their bilateral ties with Iran to the hegemonistic and bullying objectives of the United States in the world order. They realize that they should draw up their regional and global policies without regard to U.S. interventionist policies.

What the world has witnessed in recent months demonstrates that U.S. influence on industrial nations, especially Japan, is gradually waning. In fact, with the continuation of this trend, one can expect the beginning of a new era in international relations.

### Daily Views U.S. Failure To 'Demonize' Nation

*LD1106052595 Tehran IRNA in English*
*0427 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA — An English-language daily here today editorialized on the U.S. trade embargo against Iran and commented that when Clinton declared a total economic embargo on Iran last month, he relied on the U.S. allies to lend their support to isolate Iran.

"Little did Bill Clinton know that we are living in a world of shifting alliances and that the very allies that he had depended on would take Iran's side," wrote TEHRAN TIMES.

On Friday [9 June], the Japanese formally advised the U.S. that they would not join the two-nation (U.S.-Israel) embargo against Iran. On Saturday, Jordan shattered all U.S. hopes for rallying Arab countries against Iran, said the paper, adding that Jordanian trade and industry minister told reporters in Amman that his country was not going to join the embargo.

He went on to say that Jordan was going to upgrade ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the daily said.

The Japanese rejection of U.S. plea for cooperation on the embargo amounted to both a political and economic setback. Iran and Japan will reap the benefits of bilateral trade while U.S.-Japanese relations, by nature uneasy and lately troubled, will perhaps go through more difficult times, the daily pointed.

The Jordanian rejection for the U.S. was more of a political blow. As a country that played an important role in brokering the "peace" between Israelis and Arabs, Jordan became a favorite Arab nation in U.S. eyes. "But the latest rejection coming from Amman must have brought U.S. to a rude awakening: Not all friends will follow you to the remotest limits of animosity against a harmless nation," TEHRAN TIMES commented.

"So far the U.S. has failed miserably in its carrot and stick policy to entice or coerce other countries to cut off their trade relations with Iran. Jordan and Japan are only the latest ones to rebuff the U.S. All other countries, except for Israel, had made it clear to the U.S. that they wanted to continue trade with Iran. Despite the immense pressure put on Russia, Moscow has decided to continue nuclear cooperation with Iran. Even the European Union (EU) has declared that it will not follow the U.S. in its attempts to isolate Iran," wrote the article.

The launching of the policy to isolate Iran has brought about nothing but disappointment, frustration and disgrace for the U.S. If there are any wise politicians left in Washington, they must be asking themselves the wisdom of the move to ask the world to follow the U.S. in pressuring Iran, the paper stated.

The article concluded by saying that next time someone in the White House tries to demonize another country, he might want to have second thoughts and see if the world will follow suit.

### Tehran Seeks To Improve Trade Ties With Asia

*LD1106120695 Tehran IRNA in English*
*1119 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA — Iran is concentrating on trade ties with Asia to gradually replace Tehran's Western trade partners, said a senior Foreign Ministry official.

Director-general of the Far East and Pacific department, Hassan Taherian, in an interview with the morning English language newspaper 'KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL', said expanding relations with the Asian countries is one of Iran's top foreign priorities.

Taherian said Iranian officials are looking at central, southeast and far east Asian countries as a vast market for both non-oil exports and source of technological requirements.

He added that the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importance to improving relations with the Islamic and developing countries. "Asia is perfectly right to help us achieve our objectives in that direction," he added.

The senior official said Iran cannot remain indifferent towards developments in southeast Asia and the Pacific region because "this region will be the focal point of the world in the next century."

He further added that Asian countries, especially the 'industrial tigers" are now the major buyers of Iranian crude oil and is drawing up plans to market its non-oil exports to that part of the world.

Development of ties with southeast and far east Asia would help Iran reduce its dependence on the Western industrial nations, he said.

Referring to last year trade exchanges of Iran, Taherian revealed that trade exchanges between Iran and Japan, South Korea, China and Australia reached dlrs. [dollars] 3.5 billion, dlrs.1.5 billion, dlrs.700 million and dlrs.400 million respectively which reflects a steady increase in trade between Iran and these countries since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Taherian said "we expect our parliament speaker 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri to visit Pyongyang in the future in line with the two countries commitment to further improvement of political and economic relations."

Describing Iran's relations with the two Koreas as "good" and "improving", he said Iran was waiting to host the South Korean foreign minister in the near future.

It is expected that the joint Iran-South Korea economic commission be held in Tehran soon, he stated.

He welcomed the idea of cooperation among top Asian countries with the target of restraining foreign influence in the continent and said, "Iran has been the first country to propose such a setup and we are ready to fully cooperate for that goal".

Concerning Tehran-Tokyo ties, Taherian said Iran enjoys friendly ties with Japan and has always praised the Asian giant's independent policy vis-a-vis Iran.

The fate of a Japanese yen loan package to Iran to complete the Karun Dam project in southern Iran was discussed during last month's visit to Tokyo of deputy foreign minister for east Asia affairs, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, added Taherian.

Japanese authorities were studying the issue and would soon make a final decision on the fate of the loan, he specified.

He concluded by saying that Japan, under the pressure of the United States, has several times postponed the second installment of a 150 billion yen (dlrs. 1.8 billion) package for the major Iranian project.

## Italian Senator Andreotti Pays Official Visit

### Meets Va'ezi, Views Regional Crises

*LD1006212495 Tehran IRNA in English 2107 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 10, IRNA — The visiting Italian senator, Giulio Andreotti here Saturday [10 June] met with the Deputy Foreign Minister for Europe and American Affairs Mahmud Va'ezi.

Calling as "useful" talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the European Union (EU), Andreotti said that the talks will pave the way for closer ties between Iran and the western countries. He underlined that strengthening of relations between Iran and the neighboring Arab states should not make other countries worried.

The former Italian prime minister termed as neccessay the Iranian cooperation in area of peaceful settlement of the regional crises and said that in case there was an international control no one could bring about any limitation upon the peaceful use of the nuclear technology by any country.

Expressing as "useful" talks between the religions for solution of the world political problems, he underlined that his government has approved multilateral relations with Iran.

Describing the process of the negotiations between Iran and the European Union, Va'ezi expressed the Iranian resolve for building up peace and stability in the region.

Having an independent and optimistic stance towards the international developments is a natural right of any country, said Va'ezi, adding that a key factor in expansion of relations with the European countries depending upon their stance against the propaganda by the U.S. and the Zionist mass media.

Va'ezi called as neccessay the talks between the Muslim and Christian researchers and for removal of the political problems.

### Talks With Velayati, Discusses Balkans

*LD1106154895 Tehran IRNA in English 1507 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA — The visiting Italian senator, Giulio Andreotti here on Sunday [11 June] lauded Iran for the faith and strong will it has shown on international scenes for overcoming difficulties.

Andreotti made the remarks in in a meeting with foreign minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati here where the two also exchanged views on international issues especially the ongoing conflict in the Balkans.

Andreotti said unfortunately, Europe could not build understanding between the independent republics of former Yugoslavia in order to avoid the current bloody fighting.

He said that the historical root of the conflict has helped heighten tension and brought about ethnic cleansing in its present violent form.

Velayati told Andreotti who once served as the Italian foreign minister that foreign ministers played important roles in directing relations between nations.

Velayati pointed to the weak performance of the Western countries Contact Group on Bosnia and said that they did not cooperate with the OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] Contact Group and regretted that the world has resorted only to rhetoric rather than practical measures vis-a-vis the fate of a nation.

Andreotti arrived in Tehran on Saturday.

### Official Comments on Relations With Iraq

*NC0906120795 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Jun 95 pp 1, 4*

[FBIS Translated Text] Plans are being studied on preparing lists of the names of POW's and MIA's, on the basis of facts and documents, for the approval of top officials in Iran and Iraq.

This was stated by Dr. 'Ali Khorram, senior adviser to the foreign minister, in an interview with an ETTELA'AT correspondent. If this plan receives final approval, the two countries will have to give clear and explicit answers to all questions in this regard. Thus, the issue of POW's and MIA's will be solved once and for all. And since the final approval of this plan will be made by the two countries' top officials, the answers will be trustworthy and reliable.

The foreign minister's senior adviser expressed hopes that this plan will lead to a final solution, and added: Iraq is also interested in an immediate solution, one that will not be in phases and stages.

Referring to the search for the pure bodies of our martyrs [killed during the Iran-Iraq war] on Iraqi territory and for the bodies of Iraqi soldiers in Iran's war zones, Dr. Khorram said: The Iraqi foreign minister has indicated his country's approval of a search on Iraqi territory for the pure bodies of our martyrs and for handing these bodies over to Iran. We too will hand over the bodies of any Iraqi soldiers that we have in Iran, as well as any bodies found in searches on Iranian territory.

Pointing out that the pure bodies of eight martyrs have been found and buried so far, he said: More bodies have been found by the committee in charge of MIA affairs of the General Staff of the Armed Forces and they will be buried soon.

He added: With the finding of these bodies, the problems related to the MIA's and their families will be solved.

Referring to the discussions the Iranian delegation held with Iraqi officials in Baghdad concerning Arvand Rud, the foreign minister's senior adviser said: As far as Arvand Rud and the fencing of borders are concerned, everything is being done is in accordance with the 1975 [Algiers] Pact. This was stated during the Iranian delegation's recent visit to Baghdad. Certain promises were made to improve the implementation of bilateral agreements, which we hope will gradually come about.

Pointing out that both countries are striving to solve the problems concerning implementation of Resolution 598, he said: The two countries do not disagree on the substance of Resolution 598. However, their views may vary on how the various provisions of the resolution should be implemented. Therefore Resolution 598 forms the basis for the normalization of Iran-Iraq relations.

This Foreign Ministry official referred to the phased bilateral talks on normalization. He said: At each meeting, we have more results and our views get closer together. We feel that both countries have the necessary political will to overcome past problems; and this is the pivotal factor in the talks, which we hope will yield beneficial results.

Pointing to the need for a correct understanding of the current situation by both countries and for a solution to the two countries' problems, Dr. Khorram said: This way we will not have to wait for others to act, but will try to normalize our relations at the earliest opportunity.

He added: Plans for the Iranian delegation's visit to Baghdad were made last year, but a series of problems caused us to postpone the visit. We tried to overcome some misunderstandings, and it was finally decided that the Iraqi Government should announce a date for our visit to Baghdad to prepare the agenda for a foreign ministerial meeting, and we finally agreed to set the visit for late Ordibehesht [month ending 21 May]. Therefore, the date for the Iranian delegation's visit to Baghdad was not linked with U.S. trade sanctions on Iran.

Dr. Khorram added: We have to normalize our relations since both countries want to have peaceful, stable borders. Tension on our borders definitely benefits neither Iraq or us.

Stating that the improvement of relations between Iran and Iraq is not to the detriment of any country, he said: Our efforts are directed at moving the region from crisis to peace and stability, because crises do not benefit any country. Therefore, in the long run, the improvement of Iran-Iraq relations will definitely benefit all the regional countries; they should be glad about this. But some foreign countries are always trying to justify their presence by referring to hostility between Iran and Iraq or Iran-Iraq hostility toward the Persian Gulf countries, and they constantly try to spread a feeling of unease in these countries. However, Iran's policy is to expand its relations on an equal basis with the regional countries and with Iraq. Therefore, improved Iran-Iraq relations cannot have a negative impact on relations with other countries.

He added: We are certain that the impact of these relations (if they are established) will be visible soon and will be to the benefit of the Persian Gulf countries. Therefore, there is no reason for concern.

Referring to the fact that Iran has good relations with Turkey within the framework of bilateral and trilateral ties as well as within the framework of the ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization], Khorram said: The improvement of Iran-Iraq relations will not have any negative repercussions on Tehran-Ankara ties. On the contrary, we think that if Iraq returns to the world community, cooperation among Iran, Iraq, Turkey, and Syria will increase and improve.

Discussing Iran's stand on the sanctions against Iraq, the senior adviser to the foreign minister said: We have two approaches to this. The first is that if relations improve we are prepared—the on the basis of UN authorizations of humanitarian assistance—to extend humanitarian assistance to Iraq. The other is that if Iraq wants diplomatic efforts at the global level to help lift the sanctions, we will also extend the necessary support for these sanctions to be lifted if relations between us improve.

Commenting on the two countries' talks on pilgrimages to the holy shrines in Iraq, he said: When the two countries' relations improve, the problems regarding pilgrimages to the holy shrines and travel between the two countries will definitely also be solved.

Speaking about a possible meeting between the Iranian and Iraqi presidents in the future, the foreign minister's senior adviser said: The possibility that the two heads of state will meet in the future is not ruled out. But it is too soon to tell when such a visit would take place. However, when visits and contacts between the two foreign ministers are held, relations will be affected too, after which there will also be visits on other levels and the bilateral relations will also improve.

### Daily Views Future Prospects for Ties With Iraq

*NC0906201995 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 1 Jun 95 p 16*

[Unattributed commentary: "The Future of Baghdad-Tehran Relations"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A Kuwaiti official announced that the six member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council intend to discuss Iraq's relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran at their session next week in Riyadh.

These remarks, which came after the visit by the adviser to the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign minister to Baghdad and his meetings with Iraqi officials indicate that the apprehension that assails the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf littoral states is unwarranted.

The visit was made to follow up on the issue of the missing in action, POWs, refugees, and resolving of border issues between the two countries. On conclusion of the visit, our foreign minister also clarified that the relations between Tehran and Baghdad will not be aimed against anyone.

The improvement of relations between Iran and Iraq from the point of view of Arab governments and those of the world should be seen as part of the Islamic Republic of Iran's efforts to broaden its friendship with its neighbors.

As the largest and most powerful country of the region, Islamic Iran believes that the broadening of regional cooperation is the best and most effective means for resolving the difficulties in every crisis-ridden region. Security and stability can only be created on the basis of an understanding. This policy assumes greater importance in circumstances when the loudspeakers of the powers of world arrogance constantly intend to drive a wedge between Islamic Iran and its neighbors.

On principle, the entry and intrusion by the foreign forces in the Persian Gulf region was the main element of fomenting tension and the source of the differences among the countries of the region. If all the countries displayed goodwill in their reciprocal relations and did not put their national interests second to the interests of the domineering powers, there would be immense scope for regional accords and for forging closer relations in the region. This is and has been the Islamic Republic of Iran's perspective right from the outset of the victory of the Islamic Revolution on which it has based its policies and performance.

Nevertheless, following up on this strategy was not the sole objective of the visit by the Iranian delegation to Baghdad and for talks with Iraqi officials. Following the visit by the adviser to our foreign minister to Baghdad, five working committees were set up so that as soon as possible the fate of the remaining prisoners, missing persons, and refugees could be ascertained, which continues to be one of the impediments in the path of broadening relations between the two countries.

In the wake of this visit, it was decided that a delegation from Iraq should also visit the Islamic Republic of Iran so that the talks between Tehran and Baghdad could continue and the way should be paved for our foreign minister's visit to Iraq. This delegation will arrive in Tehran next week.

It appears that the Iraqis also welcome the gradual changes that are taking shape in relations between the two countries. As for what the nature of Baghdad-Tehran relations will be in the future, that is a question that depends on the level of the Iraqis' sincerity.

### Agreement Reached With Iraq on POW Exchange

*LD1006110295 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The head of an Iranian committee in charge of the POWs and MIAs affairs today announced that Iran and Iraq have agreed to set up committees to search for bodies of the two country's MIAs on border areas and exchange them later.

Brigadier General Najafi, who was speaking today at a gathering of the families of POWs and the MIAs on the occasion of the Day of POWs and MIAs, referred to the presence of Iranian POWs in Iraqi prisons and added: During the latest round of negotiations, the two countries' delegations agreed to exchange all documents and evidences relating to their POWs so that proper investigations can be carried out. The two sides have also agreed to announce the outcome of their investigations afterward.

He praised the late Mohammad 'Ali Nazaran, former head of the committee for POWs and MIAs, and said that the return of many POWs is due to his uncompromising efforts.

### Official on Monitoring Iraqi Media for POW's

*LD1006105495 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A large number of unregistered Iranian POW's still held by Iraq have been identified.

Brigadier General Kargari, an official in charge of the self- sacrificing devotees unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [vahed-e isargaran-e sepah-e pasdaran-e enqelab-e eslami], told reporters this morning that the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has monitored over 95 percent of Iraqi television broadcasts relating to the two countries' military operations. He added: There are as many as 200 videotapes of these pictures.

He also said that all Iraqi radio programs and Iraqi press as well as those of other countries that contained items on Iranian POW's have been monitored and recorded. He said there are 330 audio tapes of recorded radio programs in this regard. He said: By doing this, we have strong and documented evidence on a number of Iranian POW's and MIA's who have not been registered by the Red Cross.

### Iraq Urged To 'Turn Over' Opposition Leaders

*NC1106094995 Paris AFP in English 0924 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 11 (AFP)—Iran has officially asked Iraq to turn over the leaders of the main armed opposition group, the Mojahendin-e Khalq Organization, an Iranian weekly said Sunday [11 June].

Keyhan-e Hava'i, quoting judicial sources, said a request had been submitted for the extradition of Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi and his senior colleagues during a trip to Iraq last month by 'Ali Khorram, an adviser to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

"The request will remain valid for as long as Rajavi remains in Iraq," the source told Keyhan. The judiciary is seeking Mojahedin leaders "for crimes committed against Iranian citizens, their acts of sabotage and treason."

The source added that Iran would set up a public trial for the opposition leaders "before representatives from international organisations."

The Mojahedin launched a bloody campaign to topple the Islamic regime in Iran in 1981 and has conducted cross-border raids from Iraq, where the group is based.

Tehran was also angered by the military support the Mojahedin extended to Baghdad during the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war.

However Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz said earlier this month that Baghdad had rejected a demand to turn over Rajavi, adding that the Mojahedin leader was a "guest" in Iraq and that Tehran had to find "another solution."

Meanwhile General Abdollah Najafi, the head of an Iranian committee in charge of the search for prisoners of war and missing in action, said Iran and Iraq had made progress on the thorny issue of POWs and MIAs during Khorram's visit on May 22-24.

The two sides have decided to set up a committee to oversee a joint search for MIAs from the Iran-Iraq war in both countries and to exchange information on soldiers still being held in Iran and Iraq," he said, quoted by newspapers here Sunday.

Tehran says Baghdad is still holding up to 15,000 Iranians, a charged denied by Iraq. Some 16,000 Iranian soldiers are reported missing and believed to be dead.

Iraq says 20,000 of its soldiers are still detained by Iran, a charge neither confirmed nor denied here.

Tehran has announced a visit to Iran by an Iraqi delegation to continue talks on normalising ties. But the foreign ministry told AFP that no date had yet been fixed, although newspapers here had said that the visit would take place this week.

### Gunmen Attack Office of 'Radical Weekly'

*NC1106065795 Paris AFP in English*
*0617 GMT 11 Jun 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, June 11 (AFP)—Unidentified gunmen attacked the office of a radical weekly which has grown very popular here for its biting criticism of Iranian leaders, a newspaper reported Sunday [11 June].

Police arrested three of the assailants after they left the office of Peyam-e-Daneshju (the student message) on Saturday, the daily Salam said.

The gunmen, whose number was not specified, forced their way into the office, cut off telephone lines and locked up the staff in a room while they ransacked the office, it added.

Salam said the assailants also issued a death threat to the weekly's director, Heshmatollah Tabarzadi [name as received], and his colleagues. The weekly has received several anonymous threats in past weeks, according to informed sources.

Peyam has been at the center of controversy for its open criticism of top officials, especially President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The weekly is close to hardline Islamic associations in Tehran university and claims to be moving in the "path" of the Iranian leader Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i.

Peyam was recently sued by Tehran mayor Gholamhussein Karbaschi [name as received] and the head of the Foundation for the Deprived, Mohsen Rafighdoost [name as received], after it published a series of articles on the activities of Tehran municipality and diversion of funds in a state bank, in which Rafighdoost's brother was implicated.

### Khamene'i Talks of Khomeyni's Stand Against Shah

*LD0906121695 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian*
*0930 GMT 9 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] On the anniversary of the bloody epic of Karbala, at noon on Ashura, a huge crowd of Husaynite mourners performed the Friday [9 June] prayers under the imamate of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the great leader of the Islamic revolution. [passage omitted]

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i pointed to the similarities between the uprising of Husayn Bin 'Ali, peace be upon him, and Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to God's paradise, against the shah's tyrannical regime and said:

[Begin Khamene'i recording] They did not understand that this responsibility would not be shirked because of danger. Let it be dangerous. The duty of uprising is always dangerous. How can man rise up against an apparently strong power without facing danger? Can this happen? This duty is always dangerous. The great Imam fulfilled his duty. They used to tell the imam: Sir, you have taken on the shah, this is dangerous. Do you think the imam didn't know it was dangerous? Do you think the imam didn't know that the Pahlavi regime's security services arrested people and killed and tortured them, and that they killed our friends and sent them into exile? The imam did not know this? Of course he did.

What took place during the time of Imam Husayn was copied to a small extent during the time of our imam. However, in the former case, it led to martyrdom and in the latter it led to taking power. Otherwise, there is no difference between them; Imam Husayn and our imam had the same aim. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Central Bank's Foreign Exchange Policy Viewed

*95LA0241B Tehran RESALAT in Persian 1 Mar 95 p 11*

[FBIS Translated Text] After a relatively long period of calm, last week the foreign exchange market was beset by chaos and disruption.

Up until the beginning of the month of Ordibehesht this year [21 April], the selling price of the dollar and the major currencies on the free market remained almost stable, fluctuating between around 4,200 rials [R] to R4,250, so that on Saturday (2/3/1374 [23 April

1995]) the dollar was selling on the free market at about R4,260.

On Monday, however, stability in the foreign exchange market was shattered with the Central Bank's announcement of the buying and selling price of foreign exchange from exports by the banking network, and the increase in the foreign exchange rate began.

Due to various issues and because of worries that the foreign exchange earned from exports would not come back, in guidelines issued last year the Central Bank announced that exporters must put half the foreign exchange earned from exports into the bank. This money would either have to be used by the exporter himself to import raw materials or given to another importer and ultimately be sold to the bank at the market rate. The other half could either be used in the same way as the first half or sold freely.

Since these guidelines cover the foreign exchange earned from exports after the date of the issuance of the guidelines, there was no need for the bank to announce the buying and selling price, but these days, as the foreign exchange earned from exports coming into the hands of exporters gradually becomes subject to these guidelines, the Central Bank, as the buyer of the foreign exchange, has begun announcing the daily price.

In this regard it is worth mentioning that since the rate announced by the bank must be more or less equal to the free market rate so the exporter will not have a sense of extortion and loss, free market agents, following the bank, have begun increasing their foreign exchange rate to prevent exporters from selling the other 50 percent to the bank.

For example, when the rates announced by the Central Bank for buying and selling export foreign exchange were R4,120 and R4,170 respectively, the selling price on the free market was R4,270, but when the Central Bank increased the announced rates by R3, bringing them respectively to R4,123 and R4,173, the selling price of a dollar on the free market went up to R4,350.

Late last week, the Central Bank announced the rates for buying and selling export dollars as R4,373 and R4,423 respectively, and following that the selling price of the dollar on the free market increased to between R4,750 and R4,800.

A point worth noting in this regard is that since the time the Central Bank stopped the sale of travel foreign exchange by authorized money changers, these centers practically stopped dealing in foreign exchange, and the Central Bank's other step of requiring half the foreign exchange earned from exports to be deposited into the banking network deprived these centers of their main and traditional source for obtaining foreign exchange.

The question may arise: Will there be demand on the market for foreign exchange whose price has increased? In answer it must be said that there are now many applicants trying to obtain foreign exchange from the Central Bank who are not getting the result they want. Likewise, with the reduction in the supply of travel foreign exchange, these kinds of people will get the rest of what they need on the free market.

In general, if the Central Bank were able to meet the demand for the country's basic and essential needs and if it were also able to meet its commitments to importers, travelers, students, and medical patients and prevent these kinds of people from going to the free market, it does not appear that the false increase in the foreign exchange rate would have that much effect on the nation's economy.

There are currently five rates for the sale of dollars: the floating rate of R1,750, the travel rate of R2,680, the export foreign exchange rate of R2,345, the rate for foreign exchange earned from exports of R4,423 and the free market rate which is between R4,750 and R4,800.

## Funds Allocated for Investment in Communication

*95LA0241C Tehran RESALAT in Persian 1 Mar 95 p 11*

[FBIS Translated Text] Economic Affairs Division—In its latest meeting the Economic Council approved investment credits for the Iran Communications Company in the amount of 750 billion rials [R].

The Public Relations Office of the Plan and Budget Organization reports that the projects approved include: The Telephone Equipment Project in the amount of R129.891 billion, the Local Cable and Communications Project in the amount R238.2 billion, the Communications Buildings Project in the amount R97.9 billion, the Supply and Energy Project in the amount of R45.3 billion, the Microwave Project in the amount of R90.575 billion, the Rural Communications Project in the amount of R34 billion, the Central Asian Nations Communications Project in the amount of R31.65 billion, the International Telephone Switching Project in the amount of R15.85 billion, the Land Stations Development Project in the amount of R7.6 billion, the Mobile Project in the amount of R21.5 billion, the Critical Data Project in the amount of R7.82 billion, the Improvement and Basic Repairs Project in the amount of R8.516 billion, the Mechanization Project in the amount of R2.975 billion, the Communications Training and Cultural Development Project in the amount of R12.433 billion, the National Communications Research Project in the amount of R15.5 billion, and investments in other institutions in the amount of R290 million.

### New Appointments to Various Offices Announced

*95LA0241L Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian 1 Mar 95 p 3*

[FBIS Translated Text] Hamid Abutalebi, former consultant to the foreign minister, was appointed as Iran's ambassador to Belgium.

The Foreign Ministry Public Relations Office reports that after the recommendation by Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati was approved by the president of the republic, Iran's new ambassador to Belgium officially began his duties as ambassador.

Based on separate orders by the minister of mines and metals, Engineer 'Ali Golestaneh was appointed as this ministry's deputy minister for Majles affairs, and Eng. Behruz Bushehri was appointed as senior consultant to the minister.

Based on separate orders from Mas'ud Roghani-Zanjani, chief of the Plan and Budget Organization, Mohsen Sharifinia was appointed general manager of the Office of Consultant, Builders, and Contractor Affairs, and Khalil Sa'idi was appointed chief of the Province of Tehran Plan and Budget Organization, and they assumed their duties.

Energy Minister Eng. Bizhan Zanganeh issued an order appointing Eng. Hasan Asghari as executive director of the Province of Tehran Water and Sewage Company, and Akbar Ne'matollahi was appointed as the Ministry of Energy's general manager of Public Relations.

In separate orders by Eng. Akhundi, minister of housing and urban development, Eng. Farjami was appointed as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Land and Housing Organization, and Majid Ghafuri was appointed as general manager of its Accounting and Appraisals Office.

### Allowance for Students Studying Abroad Announced

*95LA0241H Tehran RESALAT in Persian 7 May 95 p 11*

[FBIS Translated Text] Economic Affairs Division—The monthly allowance for Iranian students studying abroad was announced for this year.

RESALAT's economic affairs correspondent, quoting the Central Bank Office of Foreign Exchange Policies and Regulations, reports that the monthly allowance for Iranian students, whether on scholarship or not, who are sent abroad to study by the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education, will be as follows based on the floating foreign exchange rate:

Germany—100 marks, Austria—6,600 schillings, Spain—44,000 pesetas, Australia—$750 Australian, United States—$750, Italy—55,000 liras, England—350 pounds in London, 300 pounds outside London, Belgium—20,000 francs, Pakistan—$210, Japan—180,000 yen, Switzerland—1,000 francs, Sweden—$500, France—3,200 francs, the Philippines—$250, Canada—$770 Canadian, New Zealand—$550, Holland—1,100 florens, India—$250, Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico—$350, Korea and China—$220, Norway and Finland—$407, Denmark—$440, Turkey—$300, Ireland—$300 English pounds, Cuba—$220, Kuwait—R687, Soviet Union—$300, Romania—$250, Bulgaria—$220, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia—$370, Caribbean Islands (Dominican Republic)—$472, and other countries—560,000 rials.

Based on the same report, to meet the preliminary necessary expenses of students the equivalent of two months of allowance will be provided, and the foreign exchange for spouse and children (if applicable) has been set and will be paid in cash at the time student, spouse, and children are sent.

## Pakistan

### Official, Media View U.S. Move on Pressler Law

#### Spokesman Sees 'Sea Change' in Policy

*BK1006154595 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Pakistan has welcomed the move by the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee approving the relaxation of sanctions against Pakistan through modification of the Pressler Amendment. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that the move by the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee is indicative of a sea change in U.S. policy. He said it is the result of very strong advocacy of Pakistan's case by the prime minister in the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives during her visit to the United States. The spokesman said in Islamabad today that considerable ground is to be covered before the harm done by the inequitable Pressler Amendment can be undone. The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved on Thursday [8 June] a foreign aid bill that includes the relaxation of Pressler sanctions imposed on Pakistan since 1990. When asked to comment on the statement by U.S. Congressman David Bonior that the issue of 28 F-16 planes will be resolved within months, the spokesman said it is not for Pakistan to comment on the time-frame, but the Government of Pakistan is keen for an early resolution of the issue.

### Radio Cites 'First Positive Results'

*BK1106101295 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Engli-h 1600 GMT 10 Jun 95*

[Commentary by Mohammad Yamin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The United States House of Representatives passed the other day the foreign aid bill. The U.S. Senate is now to pass its own version of the bill. The members of the two houses would then consider jointly a single draft of the proposed measure which could be sent to the United States President for approval. The foreign aid bill seeks among other things to introduce changes in relevant laws to ease the U.S. sanctions against Pakistan as provided in the Pressler law. The changes proposed in the Pressler Amendment include resumption of non-military assistance to Pakistan such as the development aid to non-governmental organization, allowing the necessary legal cover for the U.S. investments in Pakistan, aid for narcotics control and assistance for international military education and training program as also assistance for countering international terrorism.

Following Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's successful advocacy of Pakistan's case during her recent United States visit and President Clinton's candid admission that it was wrong to withhold the supply of the F-16 aircraft as also to hold Pakistan's money back and that he would work with the Congress to rectify the wrong done to Pakistan, ground is being gradually prepared for scrapping the Pressler law altogether or to considerably soften its discriminatory aspects against Pakistan. Public opinion in the United States is already showing a distinct tilt toward Pakistan's just stand over the issue. To give one instance, an important meeting was organized the other day by the Pakistan-American Congress at the Gold Room of the Rayburn House. At this meeting, several leading U.S. Congressmen as well as other important personalities, including the governor of Illinois, expressed firm support for Pakistan's cause. The most eloquent address made at the occasion was by the Republican member of the House of Representative, Dan Burton, who said he had three goals in life. Number one to get the Pressler Amendment scrapped, number two to increase pressure on India to allow a plebiscite in Kashmir and number three to end the double standards of Washington where Pakistan was discriminated against vis-a-vis India. Dan Burton added that he soon hope to see Kashmiris free from the Indian yoke. Whip of the Democratic Party in the House of Representative, David Bonior, who also spoke on the occasion, declared in unequivocal terms that Pakistan was neither a terrorist state, nor a nuclear outlaw and it was time the United States starts treating it like one. Bonior also said that Pakistan was an old ally of the United States, but had been pushed away in recent years. But he was happy that their ties were now on the mend. Bonior also warned India that if it thinks it could start a meaningful relationship with the United States without resolving the Kashmir dispute with Pakistan, it was wrong. He emphasized that the United States would review its relations with India if the Kashmir dispute was not settled and the harmful situation there did not improve.

First positive results of the U.S. change in policy with regard to the application of the Pressler Amendment are already being witnessed. A shipment of Pakistan's military equipment that had been blocked for the last five years under the Pressler Amendment has already been released. Some of the items have been dispatched by the Pentagon direct to commercial contractors for repairs as there was no longer any ban on the commercial repairs. The process would continue until all such repairable items held in the United States are either returned to Pakistan or sent for commercial repairs in the United States. This was the beginning of the process which should hopefully resolve the F-16 aircraft issue to the satisfaction of Pakistan, an eventuality which has assumed a great deal of importance in the restoration of good relations between the United States and Pakistan.

### Daily Sees 'Major Breakthrough'

*BK1106091395 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 11 Jun 95 p 6*

[Editorial: "A major breakthrough"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There has been a major breakthrough towards scrapping the Pressler Amendment, after the key panel of the US Senate had adopted modifications in the Amendment in the last week of May by an overwhelming majority of 15-1, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved a bill that includes relaxation of Pressler sanctions against Pakistan. The changes in the law provide for relaxation of all non-military sanctions. The bill will now be put to the Senate for vote. A similar bill with modifications in the Pressler Amendment is also being debated in the House of Representatives. The two bills will then be merged and sent to President Bill Clinton for final approval. Senator Hank Brown, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for Near and South Asia, proposes to move another amendment in the Pressler Law which would deal with military issues. In the meantime the United States has released the first shipment of Pakistan's unrepaired military equipment which had been blocked under Pressler sanctions for the last five years. The agreement to release the equipment was reached at the first meeting of the revived Pakistan-US Defence Consultative Group held in Washington on May 31 and June 1. The unrepaired PAF [Pakistan Air Force] equipment has been sent to commercial contractors for repairs and it is expected that a decision on the return of the already repaired equipment would be taken soon.

That Pakistan is getting more and more support from influential circles in the United States in its fight against the discriminatory Pressler Amendment is evident from the proceedings of the Pakistan-American Congress which held its third annual reception the other day. It was attended by both the government and the opposition leaders of Pakistan. Speeches by US Congressmen on the occasion were marked by strong support for Pakistan on the issues of Pressler sanctions, the F-16s and the continuing repression in Indian-occupied Kashmir Rep [Representative] Dan Burton went to the extent of saying that he had only three goals before him to get the Pressler Amendment scrapped, to increase pressure on India to allow a plebiscite in Kashmir and to end the double standards practised by Washington whereby Pakistan was discriminated against vis-a-vis India. Democrat David Bonier said that "Pakistan was neither a terrorist state nor was it a nuclear outlaw and it is time that the United States must stop treating it like one". He was also very specific on the Kashmir issue. He said, "If India thinks that it can start a meaningful relationship with the United States without resolving the Kashmir dispute, it is wrong. We will review our relations with India if Kashmir issue is not resolved and the horrific situation there do not improve". The most heartening part is that Pakistani speakers at the Pak-American Congress — Senator Shafqat Mahmood, MNA [member of National Assembly] Ahsan Iqbal of Muslim League (N) and Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi — highlighted the bipartisan approach in Pakistan to the nuclear and Kashmir issues and said both the sides were unanimous on these national issues. Opposition leader, Ahsan Iqbal also complimented Pakistan's ambassador for her efforts, in marked departure from what his leader has been saying all along. This is a heartening signal and it is hoped that the opposition would stand by the government and appreciate all that it has done to make the US Administration realise that pressure should be exerted on India to have a plebiscite in Kashmir and that the Pressler Amendment is discriminatory and deserves to be scrapped. This is no mean achievement.

### Article Alleges Nawaz Sharif Link to Ramzi Yusef

*BK1206135495 Lahore JANG in Urdu 11 Jun 95 pp 1,7*

[Article by Tahir Khaleel]

[FBIS Translated Text] Islamabad — The government claims that it has detected alleged links between Ramzi [Ahmad Yusef] with certain leading political personalities, which include Mian Shahbaz Sharif and some close associates of opposition leader Mian Nawaz Sharif. At the recent meeting of the central executive of the ruling Pakistan People's Party [PPP] chaired by the prime minister in Parliament House, a document based on the details of the 22 March meeting of the party's Central Working Committee was presented. At this meeting Interior Minister Retired Major General Nasirullah Khan Babar made a statement on government moves to control terrorism. According to this document, the interior minister has informed the party leaders that solid evidence has been collected on the attempt on the life of the prime minister on 23 March 1993 [date as published] and 16 people have been arrested subsequently. The pivotal role in this case was played by Yusef, who had hatched a conspiracy to blow up Bhutto's residence, Bilawal House, with bombs. The government has already extradited Yusef to the United States. The interior minister has stated that the brother-in-law, an uncle, and brother of Yusef, who were staying in Pakistan, have succeeded in fleeing the country. The PPP Central Executive also claims that the government has obtained certain photographs in which Mian Shahbaz Sharif, the younger brother of Mian Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, and some close associates of Nawaz Sharif have been shown with the paternal uncle and other members of Yusef's family. The government also claims that it has detected "dubious links" among an organization called Mercy International, the late General Ziaul Haq, Nawaz Sharif, and the paternal uncle of Ramzi Yusef. The government is also inquiring about the members of Mercy International and efforts are also being made to find out as to who advised General Ziaul Haq regarding the visit [as published] of Mercy International.

### Balochis Seen Targeted at U.S. Behest

*95AS0393B Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 25 Apr 95 p 3*

[Article by Agha Rashid Sarbazi: "The Search for Yusef is Being Used as a Cover for Action Against Balochis"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Thousands of people have been killed or wounded by terrorists in Karachi. However, former governments as well as the present government have failed to arrest the killers of these innocent citizens.

Only verbal promises were made that strict action was going to be taken and a steel hand would be used or all the murderers would be arrested within a week. Only the Liari area was safe from bloodshed in Karachi. The reason for this is that despite being of various ethnic backgrounds, the residents of this area have been sympathetic to each others' plight. No one started a fight over ethnicity and all the residents here have formed a community. Recently, after the assassination of two U.S. Embassy employees, the government made arrests all over Karachi. However, instead of arresting the real murderers, only innocent people are arrested and later released after handing over bribes. Now the government and the local administration are starting investigations of Balochis and the Ramzi Yusef group is being accused of murdering U.S. Embassy employees. Ramzi Yusef is a Balochi though earlier he was said to be an Iraqi or a Yemeni. At one time, he was said to have been a resident of Peshawar and now it is said, from Makran Pesheen. They are telling us that he is an Iranian Balochi and that his real name is Abdulwasit Balochi. His associates are said to be hiding in Liari. During the last few days, many innocent persons have been declared Ramzi Yusef's associates and were arrested. Recently six young men were arrested in the Kilakot area having been mistaken for Arif Balochi. Aijaz Balochi's house was also raided in this context just because his brother's name happened to be Arif Balochi. If we review all these incidents carefully, it is clear that the administration is trying to change the peaceful area of Liari into a troubled area. Is it appropriate to arrest Balochis just because Ramzi Yusef is a Balochi? If the administration is correct in saying that all these arrested persons are Ramzi Yusef's associates and they are trained in guerilla warfare then why was Liari always quiet even when Balochi areas were attacked and people there were murdered on a large scale? Why have these arrested persons who are supposedly trained in guerrilla tactics been so peaceful while living in Liari? Using Ramzi Yusef's name just to arrest Balochis by calling them his associates is all based on lies and actually is aimed at sabotaging the peaceful situation in Liari. All the persons living in Liari are peaceful and perhaps the administration cannot tolerate this peaceful residential area. Liari was the only one area that was safe and now because of the efforts to arrest Ramzi Yusef's associates, murders and destruction are heading toward Liari. Arrests and terrorism are being used to scare Liari residents. Liari residents, especially Balochis, should be aware of this conspiracy. Liari is the area from where paths lead to three nations—Iran, Iraq, and Turkey. The United States has eyes on the road from Liari to Gwadar port. The Balochis in Liari are being arrested under this plan using Ramzi Yusef as a pretext. However, the Balochis know how to protect Balochiistan and are the original residents of Karachi. They can also destroy all plans of those who want to divide up Karachi. Those who want to divide up Karachi or those who are involved in making this sinful plan will have to face the resistance of Balochis.

## Editorial Cites U.S. 'Quiet Terrorism'

*95AS0393C Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 1 May 95 p 3*

[Editorial: "The Guilty Accuses the Judge"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States has declared seven nations, including five Muslim nations, terrorist states. In the annual report of the U.S. State Department, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Sudan, North Korea, and Cuba have been accused of backing international terrorism. The accusations levied in this report are prime examples of irrelevant accusations. For example, Iran is accused of backing Hezbullah in southern Lebanon and because it is not willing to take back the fatwa [religious edict calling for death] issued against Salman Rushdie. Libya is not willing to extradite the persons involved in the Lockerbie tragedy to the Western nations. The accusations against other nations are similar to those levied against Iran and Libya. Some of these accusations cannot be proved and others just cannot be considered crimes in any context. The fact is that the United States does not have the right to declare any country a terrorist nation. Its efforts to declare seven countries terrorist nations is just an effort to blackmail seven civilized nations. This effort definitely can be called an act of international terrorism. The fact cannot be rejected that the U.S. government has been and still is directly involved in the internal affairs of all countries in the world, especially third world countries. This is an example of its quiet terrorism. As for the CIA of the United States, it has always caused problems and unrest in various countries and regions in order to protect U.S. interests. There are so many and such scary details of CIA actions that terrorism is a minor act for them. Countries usually do accuse each other of negative actions in international relations and this is considered normal practice. However, the U.S. State Department practice of declaring various nations 'terrorist' in its reports is against all international laws, the UN Charter, and principles of bilateral relations. We think that these nations should contact the international court to stop this conspiracy of character assassination. Perhaps the United States would be shocked to learn that the people in most nations in the countries have different views regarding the countries that it has called terrorist nations. They believe that these seven nations are not willing to accept U.S. directions, orders, and pressure. This opinion is helping increase respect for these nations.

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